GERMAN CLASSICS

GOETHE

BUCHHEIM

EGMONT, A TRAGEDY

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GERMAN CLASSICS

LESSING, GOETHE, SCHILLER

EDITED

WITH ENGLISH NOTES, ETC

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Egmont, a Tragedy by Goethe

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Production to

PREFACE.

In the year 1825 Goethe had, as we are told by Eckermann, the gratification of hearing from an Englishman 'that the interest felt by his countiymen in the German language was already considerable, and was growing daily, so that there was no young Englishman of good family who did not learn German' How much more rejoiced would Goethe, who had a great admiration for everything English, have been, could he have lived to see the vast progress which the study of German has made in this country since that time, could he have lived to witness the general acknowledgment of German as an essential element of a liberal education for the merchant, the nobleman, and the scholar, the warm appreciation of German poetry by all well-educated Englishmen, and the official recognition of the German language and literature in the great seats of learning in this country last-mentioned circumstance, in particular, has greatly contributed to raise the standard of the study of German now universally admitted that German must be studied as a classical language, and that the great authors of Germany require, and fully deserve a more scholarly interpretation than they received in former times In my editions of German Classics I have long ago acted on this principle, and I have spared no pains to edit them-to the best of my ability-in the manner in which Greek and Latin Classics have been edited by learned commentators

As to this volume, which forms the first part of the series of German Classics confided to my editorship by the Delegates of the Clarendon Press, I will be blief. My commentary to

Egmont is the result of several years' study and labour This drama is replete with historical allusions, far more so than is generally known. On account of this fact, I have carefully studied all the original sources, and have accordingly explained almost every passage which has a historical bearing. In doing so I have thought it right to quote verbatim those passages from Strada's work on the 'Belgian War,' upon which nearly all the historical allusions in the drama are founded These passages I have given in both the Latin original and an English translation, thinking that the former will be of interest to classical students, and the latter absolutely necessary to those who are not acquainted with Latin For my references to that *remarkable work I have used the 12mo edition printed at Rome in 1648. It consists of two volumes Goethe required for his purpose the first only, the title of which runs, 'Famiani Stradae Romani E Societate Jesu de Bello Belgico Decas Prima Ab Excessu Caroli V Imp etc **

In point of language this drama is perhaps (particularly in the conversations between the citizens) more difficult than any other German classical work, and therefore, knowing as I do from practical experience how necessary it is to remove all unusual difficulties from the path of the student of German, I have given such explanations and renderings of idiomatic phrases as seemed to me needful for the generality of readers. In this task I have found considerable help in the two excellent translations of Egmont which this country is fortunate enough to possess. I refer to the English version by Miss Swanwick, the well-known learned translation from Greek and German, and to the recent translation by the accomplished scholar, Mr. A. D. Colendge. The other

^{*} The well-known and learned commentator Heinrich Duntzer was the first to accumulate a mass of historical and other information with reference to Goethe's Egmont, in his valuable running Commentary, published in 1854, and his minute researches have considerably lightened my task in collecting the necessary materials

translations of Egmont, published in this country and in America, are of but small value. The Notes will also be found to contain a number of grammatical and etymological remarks, and various philological comparisons, referring to modern and ancient languages. The text of the original has been carefully revised, and Arguments have been prefixed to each Act

The chief modern sources which I have used for the Historical Introduction are the well-known works of Schiller, Prescott, and Motley on the subject in question, and likewise the elaborate introduction to the Correspondance de Philippe II, by the learned Belgian archivist, M Gachard, and the excellent vindication of Egmont and Horn, based on authentic documents, which has been published by M. T Juste, under the title Le Comte d'Egmont et le Comte d'Horne

In the Critical Analysis I have given the history of the composition of the drama, in accordance with the data gathered from Goethe's own writings, and I have also availed myself in my criticisms of his own opinions on his production, which give us the right clue to the standpoint from which the critic ought to view his drama. I have further embodied almost all the favourable opinions which Schiller himself has expressed on Egmont.

It is to be hoped that the Life of Goethe—brief and incomplete as it is—will be useful to those to whom the subject is new, and will, at least, animate them to peruse the works pointed out as giving full information of the life and writings of our author. The appended Bibliographical Tables—arranged according to subjects—will show at a glance the principal works of Goethe, with the date of their composition, and the existing English translations

Finally, my thanks are due also to the Rev G W Kitchin, M A, who has given me much assistance in my task, and to whom I should like to be able to express my thanks as warmly as I feel them

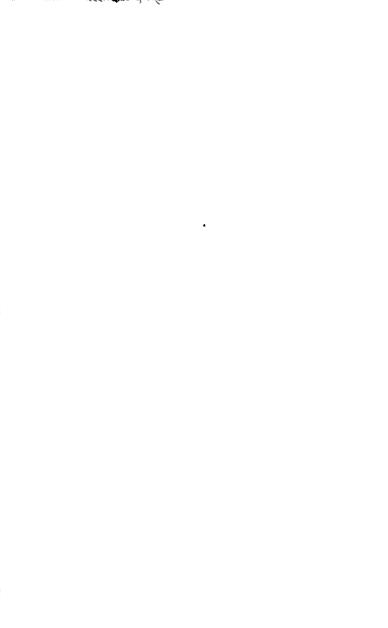
In issuing the Second Edition I have most carefully revised the Text, which, it is hoped, will be found more acceptable in its present form, both by teachers and learners, than that given in other editions. In carrying out that revision I have availed myself to a considerable extent of Dr Strehlke's edition, which is based on the poet's own MS, deposited in the Royal Library of Berlin, and on the editio princeps of the drama. The Notes to the Text have also undergone a general revision

C. A. BUCHHEIM.

King's College, London, March, 1878.

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LIFE OF GOETHE

THE quaint saying of the astiologer Seni, in Schiller's Wallenstein,—

Mein Sohn! Nichts in der Welt ist unbedeutend Das Ciste aber und Hauptsachlichste Bei allem ind'schen Ding ist Ort und Stunde,

finds its special application in the lives of great men by no means a matter of indifference with a man of genius, in which period he lived, and in what particular place he was We all know the general and trite maxim that 'genius will under all circumstances make its way' To a certain extent this saying is time, but only to a certain extent only hear of those men of genius who did gloriously overcome all the obstacles in their path, but the number of possible great men who perished in obscurity, because they were not boin at the right time and in the right place, who can reckon? Literary history abounds, besides, in instances of powerful intellects who have failed to impress their stamp upon their age, solely because they lacked the favourable influences of time and place, they were born too early or too late, or then native country was not congenial to them, or the early associations of their native place rested like a permanent blight upon then character, and thus prevented the full growth of then genius

But of Goothe, it must be allowed, that he was born at the right time and in the right place, as is seen in the universal influence he exercised over contemporary literature, and the happy development of his individual character. Had Goethe's literary career begun early in the eighteenth century, men would have been too much perplexed by the brilliancy of

his genius. He would not have found a ready echo in their hearts, and would thus have lacked that encouragement of public appreciation which is to the poet what sunshine is to the plant. Even in the latter half of the eighteenth century, the world was not a little startled by Goethe's appearance, but the German public had then already been inspired by the lofty strains of Klopstock's muse, enlightened by the acute criticism of Lessing, and, in some respects, refined by the elegant style of Wieland, not to speak of other literary and philosophical influences, both native and foreign, which helped to pave the way for a new era in German literature

Johann Wolfgang Goethe was born at Frankfort-on-the Maine, on August 28, 1749 The advantages which are geneially enumerated by Goethe's biographers as having accided to him from his birthplace are simply these, that Frankfort was a large and busy town, which gave him ample opportunities of seeing, at an early age, life in all its manifold varieties—for he could witness there the animated scenes of the annual Messen. or Cosmopolitan Fairs, that he saw the imposing spectacle of the Imperial Coronation in 1764, and that he frequented the French theatre, established temporarily by the French garrison. in 1759 Of far greater importance, however, is the circumstance that Goethe was born in the free city of Frankfort Civic life was there perfectly unrestrained, and the citizens could move freely, unmolested by any petty despotism, and this it was which gave to Goethe that consciousness of the dignity of man which formed a marked feature of his character, and never left him even in the presence of kings and emperors He was born free and remained so, else he could never have become the poet of humanity

Goethe was the son of wealthy parents His father, who was an Imperial Councillor and Doctor of Law, was a well-educated and experienced man His mother was the daughter of Johann Wolfgang Textor, the chief magistrate of Frankfort, an excellent woman, of great good-nature, mother-wit, and remarkable self-command. All the good qualities of the

parents descended upon the son, in whom they were both refined and expanded. Thus the pedantry of the father manifested itself in the son as an earnestness of purpose and love of order, which were the prevailing features of his character.

Young Goethe received a very careful education, and as he had an invincible craving after knowledge, he soon became his own teacher His poetical genius showed itself very early One of his first poems is dated 1765. It is a religious piece, entitled Die Hollenfahrt Chiefft In that year he 1epaired to the University of Leipzig, to devote himself, according to the desire of his father, to the study of jurispiudence, but art, science, and poetry absorbed his attention almost exclusively The plays Die Laune des Beiliebten and Die Mitschuldigen were composed in 1767 of 1768 The former is founded on an incident in his own life, and derives special importance as being the first of that great series of poetical works which expressed the growth and movement of his inner life The plot of the second play is taken from the 'gloomy side' of life in great cities, such as he had witnessed in the busy town of Frankfort

In 1768 Goethe returned to his native city in bad health; and after his recovery under the tender care of his mother, he went, in the spring of 1770, to the University of Straszburg, which, although the town had already been for almost a century under French dominion, was still the seat of German learning. Here he graduated, and gladdened the heart of his father by bringing home in 1771 the diploma of Doctor of Law. Another acquisition he made at Straszburg was, however, of far greater importance for him. It was there that he began to study Shakespeare, and came into contact with Herder (1744–1803), who exercised a most beneficial influence on the development of his poetical genius. He also conceived during his sojourn in the Alsatian capital the idea of Faust—the poem of his life—and of Goiz von Berlichingen, the production which may be considered as the foundation-stone of his

literary fame The first version of the latter piece was written at Frankfort in 1771, but he was too great a man to care to see his name printed, and so he took the manuscript with him to Wetzlar, whither he went to get a practical schooling in the legal profession at the Reichstammegericht, or Imperial Court of Justice. Goethe's sojourn at that place is principally noteworthy on account of his having made there the acquaintance of Charlotte Buff, the daughter of an official, betrothed to his friend Kestner—the same young lady who was the original of Lotte in Werther

In the autumn of 1772 we find the young poet again under his paternal roof, occupying himself with various studies, and re-writing Gotz von Berlichingen The second version of this drama was published in 1773, anonymously, and at the joint expense of the author and his friend Merck, who greatly influenced him by his critical judgment Goethe had dramatized the history of that 'noblest of Germans, in order to rescue the memory of a brave man' Gotz is an animated and, in general, faithful picture of the sixteenth century, with its wild life and its mingled deeds of violence and generosity. but it is sketched in such bold and grand outlines that it took the world by surprise, and called forth a host of imitations. The chief effect of the play, from a literary point of view, was the destruction of the French and the substitution of the English influence in dramatic literature in Germany Shortly after. in the year 1774, Goethe startled the world by another work different in every respect from Gotz, except that it also bears This was the celebrated novel, the stamp of youthful genius Leiden des jungen Beither The impression which this book produced was universal, and the young author became at once a literary celebrity at home and abroad Werther is a faithful picture of the morbid sentimentality of those times It shows the helpless state of a man who lacks that moral support which alone can sustain us in worldly misery Much that is in Weither had been felt by Goethe himself while at Wetzlar, but he passed bravely through that morbid state and came forth purified Such, however, was not the case with young Jerusalem, the son of the Protestant Abbot of Riddagshausen, who, in his gloomy mood, had put an end to his life Werther contains an account of Goethe's own feelings and also of the melancholy end of a man who did not possess sufficient moral strength to live down his soriow After he had written this novel (it took him only four weeks). Goethe felt himself quite cured. and peace was restored to his agitated mind. It had the same beneficial effect upon other healthy natures, and if some sickly creatures, who did not rightly read its warning lessons, suffered, it was surely not the fault of the author The book was at once translated into the chief European languages. about twenty-five times into French alone It is a wellknown fact that Napoleon had the novel with him during his campaign in Egypt, and that he made some remarks on it to Goethe himself in later years

Several minor works closely preceded or followed the publication of Werther The most noteworthy of them is Clavigo. a tragedy, principally based on certain incidents which occurred to a sister of Beaumaichais at Madrid The year of the publication of Werther is, however, more memorable from the fact that it marks the actual beginning of Faust following year (1775) Goethe began the tragedy of Egmont. which he took with him in an incomplete state to Weimar. Karl August, Duke of Sachsen-Weimar, had made the acquaintance of the poet, through Major von Knebel, in the year 1774, and had been attracted by him The liking was mutual, and soon ripened into a lasting friendship. After a repeated invitation on the part of the Duke on his assuming the reign of his modest dominions, Goethe repaired to Weimar, where he arrived on the 7th November, 1775 The young Duke had inherited a decided taste for art and literature from his mother, the Duchess Dowager Amalie, who assembled round her in her little capital a select circle of poets and artists Thus Goethe came into a congenial atmosphere, and assisted the Duke in enlarging his literary and artistic circle to such a degree that the name of the 'German Athens' was justly bestowed upon Wermar Goethe soon was all in all to the Duke, he became his most intimate friend and tutor, not his servant, but the first citizen of the little Duchy The Duke bestowed upon the poet all the outward marks of distinction in his power In 1776 he made him Legationsrath, in 1779 Wirklicher Gebein ath, and in 1782 he was ennobled and created Kammerprasident, or President of the Exchequer The office was not a mere sinecure with Goethe He worked hard for the welfare of the Duchy with, and sometimes even against, the Duke, who was not unfrequently inclined to exceed the modest limits of his income

During his first sojourn at Weimar, which lasted from 1775 to 1778, Goethe was, however, not only active as a statesman, nor did he waste his time in court pleasure. A number of his minor poetical productions date from those years, in which he also composed some of his finest ballads and hymns, and wrote his Buefe and bet Schweiz, which contain unrivalled descriptions of scenery. But, above all, he completed the first six Books of Bulfelin Meifel's Leftjahe, he sketched, in poetical prose, the first drafts of his Iphigenie and of part of his Tasso, and Egmont was taken up in happy moments of poetical inspiration. And, beside all this, he worked hard at science and art, and also carried on an extensive literary correspondence

With the year 1786 the life of Goethe entered a new phase, which he designates himself as his 'new intellectual birth' (genting Wirbergebirt). In that year he carried out his long-cherished desire, and visited Italy, where nature and at alike instilled into his mind that harmony of feeling of which he stood so much in need. There were no discordant elements to ruffle the even flow of the poetical current. The North had given him the intellectual basis—the Thought, the South imparted to him, or rather ripened in him, the divine gift of artistic Form. And now the poet was complete

The first fruit of this poetical pilgiimage was the trans-

formation of the prose version of Iphigenie into iambics, the purest that Germany can boast of The task was easy enough, the prose being actually written in language so rhythmical that in many cases it only required the mechanical division into lambics of five feet, in other instances only a few slight alterations were all that was required, as may be verified by a comparison of the prose version, which is still extant, with the poetical version Goethe's diamatic poem, of which Schiller said that it is 'a maivellous production, which must for ever remain the delight and wonderment of the world,' excels in many ways the drama of Euripides on the same But the most characteristic feature of the poem is the happy fusion of the antique with the modern, the characters of ancient Greece being reproduced in the light of the ethics of our own times Considered from this point of view, Goethe's Iphigenie may, in fact, be regarded as a representation of the triumph of civilization over barbarism.

Goethe had completed his Iphigenie—which is as noble in conception as it is pure in language and classical in form-at Rome That he also completed there the tragedy of Egmont will be seen from the Analysis of that drama in this volume He also occupied himself with new versions of his comic operas, Claudine von Villa Bella, and Erwin und Elmira, besides writing several poems, and some scenes of Faust, and transforming his Tasso into verse The last-mentioned dramatic poem, which was not finished before the year 1789, at Weimar, is based on a melancholy episode in the life of the poet of 'Jerusalem Delivered,' who had conceived an unhappy passion for the sister of Alphonso, the reigning Duke of Feiraia There is not much action in this drama, nevertheless it exercises great charm over the mind of thoughtful readers It abounds with poetical sentiments and noble thoughts, and shows the necessity of self-control and resignation in life. Another remarkable work which owes its origin to Goethe's sojourn at Rome is his Nomische Clegien-'Roman Elegies,' which he wrote in 1788 In these poetical

reminiscences the author expresses the gratification he derived from Rome, which afforded him so many means of enlightening his mind and gladdening his heart, and he looks back with regret upon days now passed for ever—Southern passion is blended in these poems with Northern depth of feeling

The year 1788 saw Goethe again in the ducal capital on the Ilm, it was in this year that he first met Schiller, at Rudolstadt. The two poets were not drawn to each other at their first interview. Schiller expressed his personal dislike for Goethe, in rather strong terms, to his friend Korner. Nor was Goethe's impression of Schiller more favourable it was reserved to the all-adjusting course of time to bring together the two greatest poets of the nation.

After the completion of Tasso, in 1789, the outbreak of the French Revolution led Goethe to turn his thoughts to works of a political complexion Most of these are very inferior to his purely poetical compositions, and, as they are very similar to one another in tendency, it may be as well to mention them here all at once The play, the Gioffoulta (1789), is based on the famous Diamond Necklace mystery, and gives a picture of the depravity of the French court The Benetianische Epigiamme, which are the product of his short visit to Venice in 1790, contain many allusions to the Great Revolution, and reveal the state of disappointment into which those troubled times had thrown his mind Burgergeneral, a little comedy based on the panic inspired by the Jacobins, was written in 1793, in which year Goethe also began his Unterhaltungen Deutscher Ausgewanderten, finished in 1795, which bring before us, in the form of the Decamerone, the conflicting opinions with reference to the French Revolution In the play called the Aufgeregten (1794) the author ridicules the overweening pride of the austociats, and the revolutionary mania of the people. But by far the most important production, in some respects belonging to the class of literature just named, is his masterly version of the old

iversally known German poem, இவன் இயஞ், into

ng the period in which Goethe devoted himself to 70rks, he also engaged heartily in scientific pursuits is botanical studies sprang his Metaniciphofe ber Pflanzen by which treatise he rendered a great service to the c world, but he was less successful with his optical hes, the results of which he laid down in his Beitrage f (1791-1792) It was fortunate for both Goethe and ld that he came again into contact with Schiller, by nimating influence he was brought back to his proper

Goethe himself designates the time of his union ate friendship with Schiller as a new spring, and as and youth' The latter invited Goethe to send him itions for his periodical, Die Soien, which was intended teract the bad taste dominant in Germany, and this, with several personal interviews, brought about a ip between the two poets which has no parallel in eral history of literature Besides chastising, convith Schiller, the idol-worshippers of bad taste, in the matic Renten, Goethe was now in a sufficiently poetical o complete Wilhelm Meister's Lehrjahre (1796), and to is exquisite idyll, hermann und Dorothea, which was This poem, which Schiller calls the pinnacle of Goethe's and all our modern ait,' is on certain incidents which occurred during the nt emigration from Salzburg in 1731, but Goethe a political background by transferring the time of o the period of the French invasion of Germany patriotic feeling is interwoven with the romantic s of the tale, and Hermann und Dorothea may be called ational poem It is written in 'Homeric hexameters. meric simplicity,' and its beauties are so great and ; that we cannot help re-echoing the words which Goethe's lips as he looked on a beautiful landscape yrol. Sier hufft fein Beschreiben! An analysis of this

poem will be found in Mr. G H Lewes' 'Life of Goethe,' who also declares that the charm of the poem cannot be caught from his analysis, for, as he well says, 'the perfume of a violet is not to be found in the description of the violet'

Between the years 1798 and 1806, Goethe was in constant and varied literary activity. Besides producing his Geschichte bet Farbenschie, the least successful of his scientific productions, he edited the Rupphaen, a periodical devoted to art and science, wrote several poems, adapted Voltaire's Mahomet and Tancred for the German stage, translated Diderot's Essay on Painting (Diberot, uber Maserel), and the Memoirs of Benvenuto Cellini. He also composed the drama, Die nativische Tuchte, which is the first part of a tragedy designed to represent a gramatic picture of the French Revolution, and wrote his essays on Winckelmann and Philipp Hackert. In 1805 Goethe suffered a calamity which affected him per haps more deeply than any other missortune which had ever befallen him. Schiller died, and Goethe wrote to his friend Zelter. The half of my existence is gone from me.

The year 1806 saw the publication of Faust, the greatest poem of the age It has been said above that, when a student at Straszburg, Goethe conceived the idea of dramatizing the legend of Faust The composition of this poem may, therefore, be said to have extended over nearly the whole of the poet's life, for it was not till 1831 that the second part of the work was finished The well-known legend relating to Faust, the student, who, after having squandered his uncle's fortune, made a compact with the Devil for twenty-four years, was first published towards the end of the sixteenth century This subject, which proved so attractive to various poets, was employed by Goethe to represent the man who, after having acquired all possible knowledge, yearns to penetrate into the mysteries of nature and to uniavel the iiddle of life itself. Foiled in his daiing attempt he despaired of life; but a reminiscence of earlier happy days, awakened in him by the chiming

of Easter bells and the distant singing of the choir, allays for a moment his inward struggle, and saves him from self-destruction. His despair is lightened, but his thirst for knowledge is not quelled, and he next is tempted to make a compact with Mephistopheles. The pleasures of this world are to afford him the sought-for gratification, but the futility of this is shown by the unspeakable misery which Faust inflicts upon Gretchen. The conflict in Faust's heart grows more tumultuous, and he seeks an escape in practical activity. This is the subject of the second part of Faust, which was written during the last years of Goethe's life, and is a kind of poetical allegory.

It is beyond our present scope to give a full critical analysis of this wonderful production. Suffice it to say that there exists no secular work which is so universally popular, and so much studied by thoughtful readers The Fauft Literatus forms almost a library by itself

Next after Faust in point of time came Die Wahlverwandt: schaften, which work was begun in 1808, and finished in 1809 This novel, which we venture to pronounce far 'better than its reputation,' shows by its tragic end that the great and sacred laws of life cannot be violated with impunity In the following year Goethe sketched the plan of his great autobiographical work Aus meinem Leben, Wahrheit und Dichtung; of which the first volume appeared in 1811, and the last not before the year 1831 This work is, both from a biographic and an artistic point of view, of the highest value Let not the expression Diditing mislead the reader it here signifies 'poetry' rather than 'fiction' The facts nariated are essentially true the author only casts a poetical halo around them His Autobiography extends only to the year 1775, but foitunately he has left us, besides a most extensive correspondence, several other works which relate to his life, as the Annalen, ober Tagund Jahreshefte (1749-1822), his Briefe aus bei Schweiz, which refer to his three different journeys in Switzerland; his Star lienische Reise (1786-1788), his Campagne in Frankleich, which

relates to the invasion of Fiance (1792) undertaken at the instigation of the French emigrés, by the Duke of Brunswick and King Friedrich Wilhelm II The Duke Karl August had the command of a regiment, and was followed from pure affection by the poet Finally we must mention here his Neise am Mount into Main (1814–1815)

In the memorable year 1814, Goethe wrote his allegorical poem Des Chementhes Camachen, in which he celebrated the liberation of Germany, and in the same year he also began the Bestostliche Dwan, which consists of poetical versions from the Persian and Arabic, and of original poems moulded in Eastern form His poetical tendency now evidently inclined more and more to symbolical representation, until it reached a climax in the second part of Faust In his prose writings, however, no such marked change was visible, and we actually find him in his seventy-first year engaged in writing a sequel to Wilhelm Meister's Lehrjahre under the title of Bilhelm Meister's Wanderfahre Goethe's first object in writing the Lehrjahre was to give a full representation of the theatrical world, but the subject expanded under his hands, and he introduced into the novel a picture of the aristocracy of those times, and of other classes of society. It is full of deep reflection on education, ait, and poetry, and the delicate delineation of the female characters in the narrative part has not been surpassed by any poet This novel, which has a deeper moral import than people are usually inclined to admit, derives special importance from the fact that the whole of the sixth Book contains a series of religious and poetical reflections, which are reminiscences of Fraulein von Klettenberg, a lady who had great religious influence on Goethe in his youth The author's celebrated criticism on Hamlet is likewise skilfully interwoven into the novel The principal characters of the Lehitabre are introduced into the Banberjahre, which consists of a series of sketches and tales artistically strung together This work is by no means equal to the Lehrafue, a fact which may be accounted for by the age of Goethe when he undertook it.

It was begun when he was seventy-one, and he recast the whole at the age of eighty

We see, then, that Goethe worked Dine Naft ofine Nath! He actually wrote several critical essays, chiefly relating to science, in the year 1832, when he had reached the age of eighty-two years and six months. On the 16th of March in that year he fell ill. On the following day he was still able to dictate a long letter addressed to W von Humboldt, but his life was now ebbing fast, and after a few days more of illness the earthly career of Johann Wolfgang Goethe was closed, on the 22nd of March, 1832

An incidental remark made by Goethe in his dying hour shows that the memory of Schiller floated before his mind's eye to the last Nothing can be more touching than this circumstance, and nothing casts a more favourable light on Goethe's character than his friendship for his early critic and later rival Schiller's severe criticism on Egmont (see the following Analysis) must have produced upon him a painful impression Still, it is well known that he materially assisted the poor though popular poet, and that without his influence Schiller would not have been able to devote himself exclusively to the exercise of his poetical genius The tragedy of Egmont was, in later years, destined to give a still more striking proof of Goethe's disinterested friendship for Schiller. The latter had, in the year 1796, undertaken the arrangement of that drama for the stage, an arrangement which Goethe Schiller proceeded in justly called eine graufame Rebaction a most arbitrary manner in his re-cast, which was in reality a mutilation of the diama But yet Goethe, who in his capacity of Theatre-Director was the theatrical autocrat, allowed the piece to be performed in its mutilated form, and his friendship for Schiller continued as warm and genuine as ever

There is another thing which would, under ordinary circumstances, have contributed to cause a breach between the two friends. Goethe had, as the more fortunate man, the more antagonists and enemies, and these naturally set up Schiller

as a rival to Goethe-as his superior, both as a poet and a character Goethe's detractors were aided in their ignoble proceedings by two circumstances Schiller was the more His muse appealed more to the ordinary popular poet passions of mankind, and he did not take his characters from actual life, but from his own imagination, from his ideal world. Goethe, however, represented more real characters, he saw the world as it is, and described it so For this reason Goethe had been called a Realist, and Schiller an Idealist The distinction just pointed out has also been marked by critics by two other terms with which most readers of literary history are, or at least ought to be, sufficiently acquainted Because Goethe derived his poetical conceptions from without, as it were, and considered things and persons as they actually are, he is called an Objective poet, whilst Schiller, whose creations sprang from within, from his own internal conception, is characterized as a Subjective poet. To give a more detailed or popular definition of these characteristics is beyond our present limits. Suffice it to state that the result was that Schiller became universally popular Almost everybody admired him, even those who did not understand him, while Goethe can only be fully appreciated by those who understand him rightly That the number of such readers was not very numeious is almost obvious

We certainly do not mean to underrate the genius of Schiller, and we think it singularly fortunate for Germany that she had, at one and the same time, a first-rate realist poet and a first-rate realist poet, more particularly because each of them had a considerable admixture of the peculiar genius of the other. We gladly follow in this the advice of Goethe himself to the Germans, that instead of arguing which of them was greater, they should be content to have had two such men

The other circumstance which caused Schiller to be extolled above Goethe is, that the former is generally characterized as a friend of freedom, whilst the latter is set down as

a haughty aristocrat, void of all patriotic feelings or sympathy for the people This is a vexed topic, the more so because it seems to be upheld by many Germans with all the tenacity of a superstition I have often heard the same reproach uttered against Goethe in this country, but here it is a mere echo of opinions held in Germany It would occupy too much space to prove the groundlessness of this charge. I will therefore confine myself to a brief explanation of the cause of the accusation, and by doing so I hope also to free my own countrymen from the charge of wilful detraction The charge alluded to arose out of Goethe's He was the greatest poet and the greatest German greatness of the age Even his antagonists must allow that his was extraordinary genius, hence the Germans expected everything from him He had liberated them intellectually, why should he not liberate them also politically? He was the monarch of literature, why should he not throw down the gauntlet to the greatest general of the age? Such seem to have been the vague expectations of his contemporaries, who forgot that Goethe was a man of peace, and that even a genius can achieve great things only in his own sphere It is very probable that, had Germany possessed a general who was a match for Napoleon, nobody would have expected of Goethe an active participation in the events of the time And it is also probable that Goethe's own enthusiasm would then have been roused Indeed, it may be believed that no one felt more keenly than he the national misery, but he also felt that it was beyond his power to remove it, and so he bore it with the same calm resignation with which he bore his own personal misfortunes -the death of his dearest friends, of his wife and of his son. And how should it be possible that a man of his benevolent disposition should feel sympathy with the individual only, and not with his own nation?

Goethe's benevolence is shown by facts too numerous to be enumerated here. For proof of this I must refer the reader to a work which I cannot sufficiently recommend to all who

nor carriage arrived, and the disappointed poet, unwilling to expose himself to the taunts of his friends, shut himself up in his house for several days, and wrote during this beneficial solitude the chief part of the drama. The misunderstanding (for such it was) about his journey to Weimar being cleared up, he repaired to that town with the unfinished manuscript of his Egmont.

After three years, Goethe again took up the drama, but it was only at long intervals that he worked at its composition. On December 12, 1781, he tells the Frau von Stein that his Egmont will soon be ready, and if it were not for the awkward fourth Act, which he detests and is obliged to re-write, he could finish it by the end of the year Egmont was finished in 1782, finished, but not ready for the public The composition did not satisfy the author, and he would not consent to have it performed

In the meantime other subjects occupied Goethe's mind, and the very existence of the drama seems to have escaped his memory. At last he reverted to it, in 1786, and took it with him to Italy, intending to levise it during his stay there. He began this irksome task during his second sojourn at Rome, in the summer of 1787. By a strange coincidence, insurrectionary movements took place at that time in Brussels, so that Goethe apprehended that the scenes which he had written twelve years before would now be regarded as an allusion to passing events. But it was not before the 5th of September, 1789, that Goethe was able to write from Rome, 'I must write this on a morning which is a feast-day for me, for it is only to-day that I have really finished my Egmont'

Goethe's joy at being freed of the burden which had weighed so long and so heavily upon his mind was unbounded, and he sent the drama in hopeful expectation to Weimar It was first read there in the literary circle which played so important a part in the history of Geiman literature, and the reception was favourable, though not unmingled with

censure on certain details in the execution of the piece 'The reception of my Egmont,' Goethe wrote, on November 3, 1787, 'makes me quite happy, and I hope the piece will lose nothing at a second reading, for I know what amount of labour I have put into the work (was id) hintingealbette habe), and that all this cannot be discovered at once' And again, on November 10, he writes 'That my Egmont is favourably received rejoices my heart; for I have composed no work with greater freedom of mind, and with greater conscientiousness'

That such was really the fact seems to have been little known in those times Goethe made himself so fully acquainted with his subject, that almost every line—as will be seen from the Notes appended to this volume—contains an But because he managed this in so easy historical allusion and natural a manner that the ordinary reader scarcely becomes aware of the historical basis, and because he differed from history, as regards Egmont himself, in one material point, the poet's literary friends did not regard his production as a real historical tragedy Goethe's principal source was the celebrated history of the war in the Netherlands by the Roman Jesuit, Famiano Strada, written in elegant Latin, which gives such masterly descriptions of men and things that it probably helped to induce Goethe to undertake the tragedy But Strada, although in his biographical sketches he generally does justice to the antagonists of the Spanish rule, was too partial a judge to be implicitly relied upon, and Goethe had therefore also recourse to other historians who have described the revolt of the Netherlands from a national or Protestant point of view, more particularly to the Dutch historian Meteren

Yet the public did not seem, as we have said, to have the slightest notion of the fact that Goethe's tragedy was saturated with historical reminiscences and allusions, and people were struck only with the fact that the author, in drawing Egmont as unmarried, deviated in one essential point from

who says, in the above-mentioned letter from Rome, 'that in order to understand Clarchen's character rightly it should be remembered that her affection to Egmont is by no means based on any low feeling, but on the idea she entertained of his perfection, that her happiness consisted in the inconceivable delight of calling such a man her own, that she also comes forward in the character of a heroine, and that finally a halo of glory is shed around her in Egmont's mind by his vision'

'Clarchen,' says Schiller, 'is sketched with immitable beauty. In the highest and noblest stage of her innocence, she still is the simple maiden—the Flemish maiden—ennobled by nothing but her love, lovely in her calmness, charming and grand in her passion'

In a word, Clarchen is the personification of woman's love and admiration for all that is heroic, noble, and brilliant. The heroic nature of her own character is fully displayed in the first scene of the fifth act, where her impulsive readiness to step forth to the open rescue of Egmont contrasts brightly with the timid conduct of the citizens, and her utter prostration when every hope is lost, symbolises the helpless state of the country 'I do not think,' says Mi G H Lewes, in his Life of Goethe, p 301, 'Shakespeare would have surpassed Egmont and Clarchen' And further 'These are the figures which remain in the memory bright, genial, glorious creations, comparable to any to be found in the long galleries of art'

The dramatic economy of the piece seemed to make the introduction of another female character necessary. Goethe therefore added that of the Regent, by whose conversations with her secretary, as Eckermann observes (@fpiache, ii 52), we are initiated into the political state of the country and its relations to the Spanish court 'And then,' says Goethe (ibid), 'Egmont's character gains in importance by the halo which the affection of the Regent sheds around him, and Clarchen too rises in our estimation when we see her victory over the princely rival'

The Regent appears in only two scenes Her character is rather idealized, and the manly tenor of her whole bearing has been, as Schiller remarks, considerably softened by womanly traits, which impart to her stein political character light and warmth and a certain individuality and vivacity Her secretary, Machiavel, represents in his statesmanlike counsels the voice of moderation and tolerance. The importance of the scenes in which the Regent appears cannot be overrated They form an essential part of the whole drama, and could as little be dispensed with as the scene between Egmont and Orange The character of the latter, cautious and piudent, straightforwaid and immovable in his consistency, is faithfully di awn in that single scene Truly touching is the manifestation of feeling on the part of that stern man towards Egmont, whom he considers as lost He is not ashamed of his tears, for "Cinen Beiloienen beweinen ist auch mannlich" When Orange disappears from the drama, we cannot withhold our admiration for him any more than we can our fear and anxiety for Egmont's safety This feeling arises in us as Orange pionounces the words Alba of untermed, and abides with us to the end of the drama The character of Alva has been drawn by Goethe with firm outlines 'Before his Alva,' says Schiller justly, 'we tiemble,' and 'his character is reflected, as is the case with Egmont, in the persons who surround him' The harshness of his nature makes the deeper impression upon us, because it is set in glaring contrast with the warm-hearted character of his son Ferdinand 'The scene between Egmont and young Alva,' says Schiller, 'has been invented and executed in a masterly manner, and it is entirely the poet's own creation What can be more touching than the avowal of the son of his muideier, that he had long felt deep respect for him in his heart' We think that for poetical beauty this scene has never been surpassed, and very rarely, or perhaps never, It is the lyrical effusion of two noble souls, and equalled reads throughout like an elegy in prose

But if Egmont's character appears to us the more loveable

on account of the warm admiration which the son of his 'greatest enemy' entertained for him, we must deplore his fate the more deeply, when we witness the sympathy which even his unhappy rival cannot help feeling. The character of Brackenburg, who is a sort of irresolute Werther, is quite an original creation We participate in his sorrow, more particularly in the last scene between him and Clarchen, when his generous nature is fully brought into light, and his last soliloguy, which Schiller designates as schreeflich schon, excites in us such a high degree of sympathy that, for a moment, we forget even the tragic fate of Egmont Brackenburg is also of great importance in the drama, insomuch as he tends to elevate in our eyes the character of Clarchen That she has been wooed by a respectable citizen of Brackenburg's position casts a favourable light on her own social position, poor and humble though she was

The other personages of the drama are acknowledged as master-sketches of character; and the popular scenes bear a local colouring such as is rarely found, even in the very best dramatic productions 'The few scenes,' says Schiller, 'in which the citizens of Brussels appear in conversation, seem to be the result of a deep study of those times and of the nation, and it would be difficult to find a more beautiful historical monument of the events to which they refer given in so few words?'

Some critics have censured the popular scenes as wanting in animation. We cannot join in this censure. The popular scenes represent a most faithful picture of the life and character of the Netherlanders, and the impression they make upon us is the best proof that the poet has fully succeeded in attaining the object he had in view. A detailed characterization of the popular scenes and of the marked individualities of the citizens would be beyond our present purpose, but we cannot help pointing out that the character of Vansen, the eloquent demagogue, the political firebrand by profession, is quite a unique specimen of its class, and we must the more

admile the imaginative power of Goethe in representing such a character in so life-like a form

Egmont's vision, in which the goddess of freedom, bearing the features of Clarchen, appears to the sleeping hero, has been censured by Schiller, who thought that the apparition smacked too much of the opera Some critics met this reproach by the retort that the last scene in Schiller's Maid of Orleans was far more 'operatic' than the end of Egmont But a counter-charge is no exculpation If Schiller's reproach were well-founded it would be a poor excuse for Goethe that his critic saw the mote in his eye, whilst he did not perceive the beam in his own. We think, however, that Goethe's justification lies in the groundlessness of the charge. He has himself given us, as we stated before, an interpretation of the poetical vision His intention was to ennoble the character of Clarchen in our eyes by showing us that the hero himself thought of her in no mean or earthly manner And we think that the poet has fully justified the apparition by the words which he put in Egmont's mouth 3a, sie waren's, sie waren vereint, die beiden fußesten Trenden meines Lebens . einem einsten Angenblick eischeinen fie vereinigt, einster als lieblich Besides, the poetical vision seems to be a fitting close to a diama whose hero has passed his whole life in a poetical dream

Goethe was so fully convinced of the necessity of the apparition, as a dramatic agency, that he insisted that it should be retained in Schiller's 'merciless adaptation' of Egmont for the stage. The drama had been performed, as stated, in 1791 at Weimar in its complete form, but was, as we mentioned before, in 1796 re-arranged by Schiller for the stage. The characters of the Regent and her secretary were—to the regret of the public—omitted, the succession of the scenes considerably altered, and several additions made by Schiller himself. The drama gained somewhat in movement, but certainly lost in dignity. It laboured, besides, under the disadvantage that the exquisite music which Beethoven

has composed to Egmont does not fit to the arrangement of the acts by Schiller

Goethe had, however, the satisfaction that the complete Egmont—bis Egmont—was subsequently performed on various stages with great success, and since then the drama has become a universal favourite in Germany

There are two more points on which we must add a few words—the language and the tendency of the drama

The language in the popular scenes is fully in keeping with the character of the speakers, it is terse, idiomatic, and natural, whilst in the other scenes it is elegant, classical, and 'saturated with verse' The rhythmical movement is so prevalent in the latter that it would have given the poet almost as little trouble to convert Egmont into blank verse as it did to change his Iphigenie from prose into the purest lambics. We may also mention, as a curious fact, that Schiller, in quoting in his review Brackenburg's last soliloquy, divided, it would seem almost instinctively, his pathetic speech into lambic lines

As regards the tendency of the drama, it scarcely needs to be pointed out that it is written in a spirit of indulgence and tolerance. Nay, Egmont may even be called, with its religious background, a thoroughly Protestant drama. The citizens manifest an evident yearning after the 'new creed'. That Brackenburg and Claichen belong to the same cieed we can infer from their Biblical allusions (cp. pp. 105, l. 2, &c., 106, l. 22, &c.), and from the circumstance that they seemed to visit the church chiefly on Sundays (cp. p. 100, l. 24, &c.), whilst the Roman Catholic Gretchen in Faust is represented by the poet as going to church daily

The drama has, besides, a marked political tendency We see before us not only a people loving, above all, national freedom and free religious exercises, but we also listen in Egmont's conversation with Alva to words worthy of any champion of constitutional liberty, to views and sentiments which, even in our own days, have not entirely lost their political significance, and which might have cost the poet his

freedom for life had he uttered them as the subject of one of the then petty despotic governments of Germany

Such is Goethe's brilliant tragedy of Egmont, of the origin and composition of which we have given but a feeble and brief critical analysis only. To discuss the question whether it entirely fulfils the exigencies of the drama would have led us into a critical investigation far too abstract for our present object. Anyhow, thus much is certain. Goethe's Egmont is one of the poet's master-works, and deserves to be carefully studied by the reader, to whom we would address, with Herder, the simple words 'Leges et senties'.'

HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION.

Two names shine forth before all others in the history of the heroes and martyrs of the Netherlands Teutons, but the one was a genuine Fleming, and the other by birth a German Both were popular favourites, but the one was cherished by the people with the affection of an indulgent father, and to the other they looked up with filial Upon both nature had lavished her choicest gifts, but upon the one she bestowed those brilliant attributes which dazzle the eye, and upon the other the moral qualities which excite the admination of mature minds The end of both was tragic, but the death of the one was the final signal for an mextinguishable revolt against a foreign domination, and the death of the other the seal upon the deed of separation from the same The one was a popular Cavalier, and the other an aristocratic Puritan The name of the one was Lamoial, Count of Egmont, and that of the other William, Prince of Orange

Count Egmont, Prince of Gaveren, was the scion of a very ancient noble family, whose hereditary seat stood on the dunes of the German Ocean, not far from Alckmaar, in North Holland He was born on November 18, 1522, in the castle of Hamayde, in Hainault At the date mentioned this province had already descended, together with most other Netherland provinces, to the House of Hapsburg This momentous event was brought about, as is generally the case with great historical results, partly through commonplace, and partly through unusual, occurrences The various provinces which constituted the Netherlands were originally separate independent states enjoying the privilege of being constitu-

tionally governed by their own dukes, counts, &c Gradually several of these provinces came under the dominion of one ruler, and in 1437, Holland, Zeeland, and Hainault fell, by usuipation, into the hands of Philip, Duke of Burgundy Philip became, or rather made himself by the same highhanded means, titular master of Friesland, and a few years later absolute master of Luxemburg He was thus in a position to leave a considerable realm to his son Charles, who was with more justice surnamed the 'Bold' than his father the 'Good' That daring and luckless prince lost his life in his struggle against the Helvetic Commonwealth in 1477, and his vast and incoherent domains passed into the hands of his daughter, the Lady Mary, who married the Aichduke Maximilian of Austria. The wedded life of that princess lasted but a few years She died by a fall from her horse, and her son Philip, then a child of four years of age, was recognised as her successor, while the Archduke Maximilian was appointed guardian during his son's minority, and governor of the provinces In 1493 Philip, surnamed the 'Fair,' assumed, at the age of seventeen, the reins of the government of the Netherlands, and in 1496 married Joanna, daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella of Castile The issue of this union was, in 1500, Charles, afterwards Charles V, Emperor of Germany, whose title, as ruler of the Netherlands, was simply Count Charles II of Holland, but he soon made the Flemings feel that they were in the hands of the possessor of an almost universal He chastised most severely the inhabitants of his native town, Ghent, for having daied to assert what they deemed their constitutional right, he destroyed the liberal institutions of the provinces, he introduced the Inquisition Nevertheless he was popular with the Flemings, both on account of his personal bearing towards them, and of the cucumstance that the greatest monarch of Christianity was a born Fleming

Thus much, however, is certain If the Netherlanders had, as a nation, not much reason to be pleased with their treat-

ment by Charles V, there was at all events one Netherlander who enjoyed in very high degree the favour of his Imperial This Netherlander was Lamoral. Count Egmont From the complimentary office of page he rose, at the age of nineteen, to that of commander of a light troop of horse, and having begun his brilliant military career in Barbary under the eyes of the Emperor, the latter took henceforward especial notice of him In the year 1544, when Egmont celebrated his wedding at Spiers with the Countess Palatine, Sabina of Bavaria, he had already risen to the rank of Imperial Councillor and Chamberlain, and two years later the Emperor himself invested him with the Oider of the Golden Fleece, on the very day when he bestowed the same distinction on the Duke of Alva Having been, in 1549, the companion of Philip, then Prince of Spain, during his tour through Holland and Zeeland, Egmont was, in 1554, entrusted with the confidential and rather hazardous task of bringing about the final settlement of Philip's mairiage with Mary Tudor He came twice to London in that year, and was present at the royal wedding at Winchester

Egmont's real sphere of action was, however, not the smooth and slippery arena of diplomacy, but the perilous field The wars between France and Spain, which Charles V bequeathed to his son Philip II, together with his vast dominions, soon gave Egmont ample opportunities tor displaying his brilliant military genius. In 1557, in his capacity of Captain-General of the Light Infantry, he won the great victory of St Quentin over the French under the Connétable de Montmorency Egmont inflicted on this occasion such a thorough defeat on the enemy that people compared the battle to the world-renowned combats of Crecy and Agincourt Philip II, who appeared on the field the day after the battle, complimented the victor on his great military achievement Even more brilliant was the victory which Egmont gained at Gravelines over the French under Marshal de Thermes These two victories endeared the Flemish

Bayard to both people and army beyond measure Egmont became, in a word, the idol of his country, but not so much on account of the real advantages which the people derived from his victories, as on account of his shedding unusual military glory around his countrymen Their estimation in the eyes of the world had now been raised, and, what was of greater importance to them, they were enabled to hold their own in the presence of the overweening Spaniard The very circumstance that the Spaniards grudged Egmont the victory of Gravelines so much that they, with Alva at their head, publicly criticised it, 'because it might have turned out otherwise,' doubtless enhanced in their eyes the ments of their national hero And this is why the Netherlanders loved and adored Egmont more than other prominent leaders, who were more consistently and since ely attached to the cause of the people

Count Egmont possessed, besides, all the qualities generally considered as necessary attributes of a popular hero He was of noble buth, and connected by marriage with a princely house, a valiant soldier and handsome. His popularity was so great that even the King, who harboured some secret suspicion, founded perhaps on international jealousy, against the victor of St Quentin, could not help honouring him publicly, and appointed him Governor and Captain-General of Flanders and Artors, and State Councillor Under these ch cumstances it was natural that the people should direct their eyes towards Egmont when a new Regent was to be appointed by the King, before his leaving the country Philip II, however, had no mind to place the government of the provinces in the hands of the people's favourite, and appointed as Regent of the Netherlands his half-sister, Margaret of Austria, Duchess of Parma

The task of the new Regent was to crush the religious movement whose seeds had been wafted to the Netherlands from Calvinistic France and Switzerland, and from Lutheran Germany The first measure of the Government was the addition

of thirteen new bishoprics to the four which were already in existence The whole odium of this measure was, rightly or wrongly, cast on Cardinal Granvelle, chief of the Consulta, or Secret Council of Three, which directed the Regent in her government Granvelle was, however, detested not only by the people but also by the nobles, and more particularly by Egmont and Orange, who, conjointly with Count Horn, addressed a letter to the King, warning him of the risk of leaving unlimited power in the hands of Granvelle Soon after it fell to the lot of Egmont to devise new liveries for the retainers of the nobles He adopted a simple livery—in opposition to the gaudy diesses of the Caidinal's retainers—upon the sleeves of which was embroidered an emblem resembling a monk's cowl or a fool's cap This livery was intended as a taunt against the Caidinal himself, who, later, took his full revenge on the unfortunate inventor Granvelle grew at last so unpopular that he was compelled to withdraw from the Netherlands (on March 13, 1564), but his vindictive and intolerant spirit continued to prevail in the councils of Philip II, on whom he exercised a most baneful influence. That such was the case became manifest only a few months after the Cardinal's departure from Brussels, when the King despatched orders to the Regent, that the decrees of the Council of Trent should be published and enforced throughout the Netherlands Now those decrees—to which most rigorous regulations were added-were of such a nature that the Regent could not venture to promulgate them, and in her embarrassment she resolved, with the consent of the State Council, to send Count Egmont on a special mission to Spain In 1563 he had declined Philip's invitation to come to Madrid, but now, the welfare of his country being at stake, he accepted the mission to induce his Majesty 'to mitigate the edicts and to extend some mercy to his suffering people '

Egmont set forth at the beginning of 1565, in great state, and was accompanied for some distance by several of his friends. As a characteristic sign of their distriust of the

enemies of Egmont, and of the great affection in which he was held by them, we quote the following incident in the words of Motley — 'He (Egmont) was escorted as far as Cambery by several nobles of his acquaintance — Before they parted with the envoy they drew up a paper which they signed with their blood, and afterwards placed in the hands of his Countess—In this document they promised, on account of "their inexpressible and very singular affection" for Egmont, that if, during his mission to Spain, any evil should befall him, they would, on their faith as gentlemen and cavaliers of honour, take vengeance therefore upon the Cardinal Granvelle, or upon all who should be instigators thereof'*

His reception at Madrid was so brilliant and flattering, and the King manifested towards him such warm feelings of personal friendship, expressing at the same time his fervent wishes for the welfare of the Netherlands, that Egmont, incapable of dissimulation, fully believed in the benign intentions of the King, and, although the instructions he received on his return to the Netherlands were in themselves not encouraging, still he described the disposition of the monarch in such vivid colours that some hopes of a milder government were entertained

Had Egmont possessed the shrewdness of a diplomatist, or the stern and consistent character and scrutinizing judgment of William of Orange, neither the flattering attentions of his royal master, not the liberal gifts and distinctions actually bestowed upon him, and the still more liberal promises held out as a bait, would have biassed his mind, but his careless, impulsive character was easily dazzled and deceived by the monaich's arts

The Count had not long returned home, when fiesh despatches from Spain destroyed every illusion as to the conciliatory disposition of the King Egmont was most indignant at the duplicity of Philip, nevertheless, he acted during the

^{*} Rise of the Dutch Republic, vol 1 p 458

subsequent tumultuous outbreaks in the Netherlands, for some time, with such severity against the rebels, as could not but prove him to be a most loval subject of the King. In vain did Orange endeavour to win him entirely for the cause of the people, and to persuade him to leave the Netherlands Egmont declared at a memorable meeting, where the two friends met for the last time, that he would on no account whatever take up aims against his Sovereign Orange went to Germany, but Egmont, blinded by his firm belief in the clemency of the King remained behind, a doomed man palliation of his careless and too confiding conduct it has been. more charitably than correctly, averred that it was easy enough for Orange to retire to Germany, he was also a German prince and had most of his possessions in that country. Egmont, on the contrary, was in embairassed circumstances. and being encumbered by a large family—his wife had borne him eleven children—he saw, in a foreign country, nothing but want before him

In the meantime, the King, who had resolved to reduce the Netherlands to a desert rather than allow any but staunch Roman Catholics to live there, sent to that unhappy country the Duke of Alva, with a veteran Spanish army, investing that iron-hearted man with full powers to act according to his own discretion Egmont, accompanied by forty noblemen, awaited the arrival of his mortal enemy (who never could pardon him his military triumphs) at Tirlemont, a small fortified town situated about twenty-five miles from Brussels His reception by the Duke was gloomy and almost rigid The Spanish soldiers actually made a demonstration against him by closing then ranks to prevent his passing through them, and uttered the ominous words, 'Lutheran, traitor to God and his King!' Some Flemish historians even report that Alva himself exclaimed in the hearing of Egmont, 'Behold the greatest of all heretics!

Egmont was taken aback by this chilling reception, but two of the principal Spanish officers in Alva's retinue gave him such

a friendly welcome that he soon i eturned to his delusion. The Duke, on his part, strove to efface the unfavourable impression produced by his cold welcome of Egmont, and overloaded him with outward signs of friendliness and esteem What strengthened the fatal confidence of Egmont was his friendship with Alva's son, who seems to have felt for him sincere affection and admitation Warnings now reached the Count from every quarter, but he turned to them a deaf ear, and went even so far as to call back his Secretary Beckeizeel from Geimany, and to persuade Count Horn, who could not overcome his suspicions, to repair to Brussels in full reliance on the King's justice and clemency Orange was too cautious and prudent to fall into the trap of Alva, who now saw himself compelled to be content with the destruction of those victims who were credulous enough to rely on his and the King's good faith

On the 9th of September, 1567, Egmont was present at a banquet given by Alva's son, Don Fernando de Toledo He found assembled there, among other noble guests, Count Hoin, the Viscount of Ghent, the notorious Noircarmes, and Don Fadrique de Toledo, with whom Egmont was on in-The Duke sent some of his own military musicians to enliven the feast, which was of a most joyous kind By three o'clock he sent a messenger to the Counts Egmont and Hoin, requesting them to repair to the Hotel Jassy, where he lodged at that time, to examine some plans of fortification Other messengers followed, urgently repeating the invitations, and Don Fernando at last whispered to Egmont 'Rise, Sii Count, take the fleetest horse in your stable and make your escape at once' Egmont, who could not suppress his alarm, retired into an adjoining room, where Noircarmes and two other noblemen followed him he was persuaded by one of them not to trust to the warnings of the foreigner, and, still confiding, he went with Count Horn to Alva's residence The discussion on the proposed fortifications lasted several hours, and when Alva was informed that his orders had been executed—which meant that the secretaries of Egmont and Horn had been airested, together with Antony von Straalen, the burgomaster of Antwerp—he broke up the council, after having given orders that Egmont and Horn should be let out by two different doors

Meanwhile, five hundred Spanish arquebusiers had silently encircled the palace, and, when Egmont crossed the garden in order to leave the house, his sword was demanded by Captain Sancho d'Avila in the name of the Duke of Alva In vain did he appeal to his rank of Knight of the Golden Fleece Several Spanish soldiers were already there to give effect to the Duke's command Egmont, yielding to brute force, surrendered his sword, but could not help uttering the just complaint 'that he had vanquished many a time the enemies of his Spanish Majesty with that sword, and that his services were worthy of a better reward' Whilst he was being led to a high room, with barricaded windows, and all hung with black, his unfortunate friend Horn was taken prisoner by Captain Salinas

Philip de Montmorency, Count Horn (also spelt Hoorne, or Hornes), was a descendant of the ancient House of Montmorency of France He filled the post of Admiral of the Netherlands, was Governor of the provinces of Guelders and Zutphen, and Councillor of State Like Egmont, he had been created Knight of the Golden Fleece by Charles V Several incidents have been preserved which show that his was a generous, manly, and humanely-disposed character

The noble pisoners were transferred to Ghent on the 22nd of September, under an escort of several hundred men, a precaution which Alva considered necessary, 'there being,' as he said, 'no other king recognised in the Netherlands but Egmont'

The consternation of the Netherlanders was general, and the sympathy with the two nobles universal throughout the civilized world King Philip II, however, expressed his

unbounded satisfaction, and Granvelle was only sorry that Orange had not been captured at the same time The friendly intercession of several German princes, and even of the Emperor Maximilian II. and the solicitations and strenuous efforts of the wife of Egmont, and of the mother of Horn, were all in vain After a mock trial, which lasted nine months, and during which the two Counts were kept in strict confinement, shut out from light and air, and separated from their friends, they were brought on the 3rd of June, 1568, to Brussels, and lodged in the Maison du Roi next day the Duke read at the 'Blood Council,' which was nothing but a most aibitrary court-martial, the sentence of death pronounced against Egmont and Horn in accordance with the supreme will of Philip II The charge was that of high treason, but we need scarcely add that it was founded on the merest shadow of evidence

During the night which followed the 4th of June, Count Egmont was aroused from his sleep. The Bishop of Ypres, Martin Bithove, had come to announce to him his approaching doom, whilst the curate of La Chappelle, Gisbes de Vroede, was sent with the same melancholy mission to Count Horn, who exclaimed that this was 'a poor requital for eight-and-twenty years of faithful services to his Sovereign'

The execution of the two noble marty is took place on the following day, the 5th of June, about noon, on the Great Square at Brussels. That both died like men accustomed to look death in the face without trembling need scarcely be added. Egmont died first. By a single blow of the sword his head was severed from the body. 'A cry of horior,' says Prescott, in his Life of Philip II (vol 11 p 259), 'rose from the multitude, and some, frantic with grief, broke through the ranks of the soldiers, and wildly dipped their handkerchiefs in the blood that streamed from the scaffold, treasuring them up, says the chronicler (Strada), as precious memorials of love and incitements to vengeance'

The vengeance came in due time The judicial murder of

these two illustrious martyrs produced such profound indignation throughout Germany, that the designs of the Prince of Orange were wonderfully served by it, as Philip was informed by Maximilian's ambassador at his court The impression produced in the Netherlands was indescribable, and it was this intense feeling of indignation at home and abroad which enabled William of Orange to wage for sixteen years a successful war with the greatest monarch of the world, until he, one of the noblest human beings that ever breathed, fell by But before his death a considerable the hands of an assassin portion of the Netherlands had, in 1581, formally abjured their obedience to the King, and laid the foundations of the coming Republic After the death of William of Orange the warfare against the Spaniaids was continued until, finally. the unhappy union between the two countries was broken for ever

The victims who fell during the great national struggle are numberless. Many a martyr died nameless, but those whose names have been preserved are still held in veneration by the Netherlanders. In 1860 the Belgians erected a grand monument to the Counts Egmont and Horn, on the Grande Place—the place of their execution. And thus tardy justice has been done to the latter, of whom Strada remarks— 'Defleri profecto haud modice potusset hujus viri mors, si non Egmontius omnium lacrymas consumpsisset'—The death of this man might also have been much deplored, had not all men's tears been shed for Egmont

Berfonen

Margarete von Barma, Tochter Rails bes Fünften, Regentin ber Nieberlande Graf Egmont, Pring von Game Wilhelm von Dianien. Beigog von Alba Ferdinand, fein natürlicher Sohn. Machtavell, im Dienste bei Regentin. Richard, Egmonte Gehermichreiber Silva, } unter Alba bienend. Gomez, Rlaichen, Camonte Geliebte. Ihre Mutter Bradenburg, ein Bürgerefohn. Soeft, Rramer, Jetter, Schneiber, Bunger von Bruffel Seifenfieber. Bund. Colbat unter Camont. Ruhfum, Invalide und taub. Banfen, em Schreiber Bolf, Gefolge, Bachen uf w.

Der Schauplatz ift in Bruffel.



ARGUMENT.

ACT I.

THE first act opens with a scene at Brussels representing soldiers and citizens engaged in the popular pastime of cross-bow shooting. Buyck, a soldier under Egmont, is, on account of his masterly shot, declared king of the crossbow men for the year The health of 'his Majesty' is drunk. and the mention of this title gives rise to a comparison between the affable monarch Charles V, and his stern and reserved successor Philip II The unpopularity of the latter is still more strikingly contrasted with the affection and admiration which the citizens profess towards Egmont Buyck proposes the health of the latter, and, after a passing mention of the battle of St Quintin by Ruysum, gives a vivid description of the battle of Gravelines, in which Egmont gained, as in the former battle, a great victory | Jetter expresses the wish that Egmont might have been appointed Stadtholder, instead of Margaret of Parma, but the citizens will not acquiesce in the indirect blame of the Regent | Jetter, whilst acknowledging her moderation and prudence, complains of her staunch adherence to the priests, and gives vent to his discontent—shared by the others-about the religious intolerance of the Spanish rule. whilst the 'new preachers' who came from Germany are praised by him and his friends Jetter proposes, on the admonition of Buyck, the health of William of Orange, and Ruysum pledges those present to drink to the honour of war and warriors, which circumstance calls forth, however, from letter an impressive denunciation of war The latter gives, on the challenge of Buyck, a 'civic toast,' and the scene ends with a general, joyous cry of 'Safety and Peace! Order and Freedom!'

The next scene passes in the palace of the Regent.

Margaret of Parma appears and countermands the hunt to which she had prepared to go, on account of the cares, caused by the 'religious riots' in the country which she is at a loss how to quench Machiavell appears at her command, and, by his report of the stirring events passing in the country, increases her grief He urgently recommends the full recognition of the 'new faith,' but the Regent apprehends the peremptory refusal of her brother, Philip the Second, to yield to the demands of the Netherlanders She also expresses her dissatisfaction with Egmont and William of Orange The former has offended her by his apparent indifference to passing events, and by his declaration, 'that if the Netherlanders were but satisfied as to their Constitution, peace and quiet would soon be established,' whilst the latter shows by his reserved demeanour that he is plotting mischief The Regent finally determines to summon the Council of State, and to challenge those two noblemen to co-operate with her strenuously in quelling the spreading tumults, or declare themselves openly rebels

In the last scene, which passes in a humble citizen's house, we find Clarchen with her mother, who is knitting in an arm-chair, whilst the former sings a spirited song with Brackenburg The noise caused by the marching of soldiers in the streets attracts the attention of the mother, and Clarchen asks Brackenburg to learn the cause of the unusually numerous assemblage of troops in the town his absence Clarchen is reproved by her mother on account of her devotion to Egmont and her refusal to link her fate to that of honest Brackenburg The latter brings, on his return, the news that a revolt is said to have broken out in Flanders, and that there is great agitation in the town Clarchen retires with her mother, and Brackenburg reveals in a soliloquy that he is at variance with himself keenly feels how wrong is his inaction admidst the general commotion of the country-an inaction caused by the wretched state of his personal feelings

Cifter Aufzug.

Ulimbiuftschießen

Soldaten und Burger mit Armbrusten.

Jetter, Burger von Bruffel, Schneider, fritt vor und spannt bie Armbrust Soest, Burger von Bruffel, Kramer

Soest Nun schieft nur hin, daß es alle wird! Ihr nehmt mir's doch nicht! Drei Ringe Schwarz, die habt Ihr Eure Tage nicht geschossen. Und so war' ich fur dies Jahr Meister.

Jetter. Meister und Konig bazu Wer mißgonnt's 10 Cuch? Ihr sollt basur auch bie Zeche boppelt bezahlen, Ihr sollt Eure Geschicklichkeit bezahlen, wie's recht ist.

Buyd, ein Hollander, Solbat unter Egmont

Buy c. Jetter, ben Schuß handl' ich Euch ab, theile den Gewinnst, tractice die Herren, ich bin so schon lange hier 15 und für viele Hostuckeit Schuldner. Tehl' ich, so ist's, als wenn Ihr geschossen hattet.

Soeft Ich sollte dieinieben, benn eigentlich verlier' ich babei Doch, Bunck, nur immeihin!

Buhat (schieft) Run, Pritschmeister, Reverenz! - Eins! 20 Bwei! Diei! Bier!

Soest. Vier Ringe? Es set! Alle. Bivat, Herr Konig, hoch! Und abermal hoch! Buhat. Danke, Ihr Gerren. Wäre Meifter zu viel!

Jetter. Die habt Ihr Guch felbst zu danken.

Ruhfum, ein Friesländer, Invalide und taub

5 Ruhsum. Daß ich Guch fage!

Soeft. Wie ift's, Alter?

Ruhfum. Daß ich Euch sage! — Er schieft wie sein Berr, er schieft wie Egmont.

Buhaf. Gegen ihn bin ich nur ein armer Schlucker.

10 Mit der Buchse trifft er erst wie Keiner in der Welt. Nicht etwa, wenn er Gluck oder gute Laune hat, nein, wie er anlegt, immer rein Schwarz geschossen. Gelernt habe ich von ihm Das wäre auch ein Kerl, der bei ihm diente und nichts von ihm lernte. — Nicht zu vergessen, meine Geiren!

15 Ein Konig nahrt seine Leute, und so, auf des Konigs Rechnung, Wein her!

Better. Es ist unter uns ausgemacht, baf Jeber — Bund. Ich bin fremb und Konig, und achte Eure

Gesetze und Herkommen nicht.

20 Fetter. Du bist ja arger als ber Spanier, ber hat ste uns boch bisher lassen nuffen.

Runsum. Was?

So eft (laut) Er will uns gaftiren, er will nicht haben, baf wir zusammenlegen und der Konig nur das Doppelte 25 zahlt.

Ruhfum. Laft ihn, boch ohne Pragubig! Das ift auch seines Geren Art, splendid zu fein und es laufen zu laffen, wo es gedeiht

(Ste bringen Wein,)

30 Alle. Ihro Majestat Wohl! Hoch!

Setter (zu Bund) Berfteht fich, Gure Majeftat.

Buhaf Danke bon Bergen, wenn's boch fo fein foll.

Soeft. Wohl! Denn unserer spanischen Majestat Gesundheit trinkt nicht leicht ein Nieberlander von Gerzen.

Ruhfum. Wer?

Soeft (laut). Philipps des Zweiten, Konigs in Spanien.

Ruhsum. Unser allergnadigster Konig und Herr! Gott geb' ihm langes Leben!

Soest. Hattet ihr seinen Herrn Vater, Karl ben Fünften, nicht lieber?

Ruhsum. Gott tröft' ihn! Das war ein Herr! Er hatte die Hand über den ganzen Erdboden, und war Euch Alles in Allem, und wenn er Euch begegnete, so grußt' er Euch wie ein Nachbar den andern; und wenn Ihr eischrocken wart, wußt' er mit so guter Manier — Ja, versteht mich — 15 Er ging aus, ritt aus, wie's ihm einkam, gar mit wenig Leuten. Haben wir doch Alle geweint, wie er seinem Sohn das Regiment hier abtrat — sagt' ich, versteht mich — der ist schon anders, der ist majestatischer.

Fetter. Er ließ sich nicht sehen, da er hier war, als 20 in Prunk und koniglichem Staate. Er spricht wenig, sagen die Leute.

So est. Es ist kein Herr für uns Niederländer. Unste Fursten muffen froh und frei sein wie wir, leben und leben lassen. Wir wollen nicht verachtet noch gedruckt sein, so 25 gutherzige Narren wir auch sind.

Jetter. Der Konig, benk' ich, wäre wohl ein gnabiger Herr, wenn er nur bessere Rathgeber hätte.

So e ft. Nein, nein! Er hat kein Gemuth gegen uns Niederländer, sein Gerz ist dem Volke nicht geneigt, er liebt 30 uns nicht; wie können wir ihn wieder lieben? Warum ist alle Welt dem Grasen Egmont so hold? Warum trugen wir ihn Alle auf den Sanden? Weil man ihm ansteht, daß ei uns wohl will, weil ihm die Frohlichkeit, daß freie Leben, die gute Meinung aus den Augen sieht, weil er nichts bestift, daß er dem Durftigen nicht mittheilte, auch dem, der's nicht bedarf. Laßt den Grasen Egmont leben! Buhck, an Euch ist's, die erste Gesundheit zu bringen! Bringt Eures Herrn Gesundheit aus!

Buyck. Lon ganzer Seele benn Graf Egmont hoch! Ruhsum. Ueberwinder bei St. Duintin!

10 Buhat. Dem Helben von Gravelingen! Alle. Hoch!

Ruhfum. St Duintin war meine letzte Schlacht. Ich konnte kaum mehr fort, kaum die schwere Buchse mehr schleppen. Sab' ich doch den Franzosen noch Eins auf den 15 Belz gebiennt, und da kriegt' ich zum Abschied noch einen Streisschuß ans rechte Bein.

Bubd. Gravelingen! Freunde, ba ging's frisch! Den Sieg haben wir allein. Brannten und fengten die walfchen Sunde nicht durch gang Flandern? Aber ich mein', wir 20 trafen sie! Ihre alten, handfesten Kerle hielten lange wider, und wir brangten und schossen und hieben, daß sie die Mauler verzerrten und ihre Linien zuckten. Da ward Egmont bas Pfeid unter bem Leibe niedeigeschoffen, und wir ftritten lange hinuber heruber, Mann fur Mann, Pferd gegen Pferd, Saufe 25 mit Haufe, auf dem breiten, flachen Sand an der See hin. Auf einmal kam's wie bom himmel herunter, von ber Mundung des Tluffes, bab! bau! immer mit Kanonen in die Franzosen brein. Es waren Englander, die unter dem Abmual Malin von ungefahr von Dunkirchen her vorbei= 30 fuhren. Zwar viel halfen sie und nicht, sie konnten nur mit den kleinsten Schiffen berbei, und das nicht nah genug. schossen auch wohl unter und - Es that boch gut! Es

20

brach die Walschen und hob unsern Muth. Da ging's! Rick! rack! heruber, hinuber! Alles todt geschlagen, Alles ins Wasser gesprengt! Und die Kerle ersoffen, wie sie das Wasser schwieden, und was wir Hollander waren, gerad hintendiein. Uns, die wir beidledig sind, ward erst wohl im 5 Wasser wie den Froschen, und immer die Feinde im Kluß zusammengehauen, weggeschossen wie die Enten. Was nun noch durchbrach, schlugen Euch auf der Flucht die Bauerweider mit Hacken und Mistgabeln todt. Muste doch die walsche Mazestat gleich das Psotchen reichen und Friede machen 10 Und den Frieden seid Ihr uns schuldig, dem großen Egmont schuldig.

UIIe. Hoch! Dem großen Egmont hoch! Und abermal hoch! Und abermal hoch!

Jetter Satte man uns ben ftatt ber Margrete von 15 Barma zum Regenten geseht!

Soest. Nicht so' Wahr bleibt wahr' Ich lasse nur Margareten nicht schelten. Nun ist's an mir. Es lebe unsre gnad'ge Frau!

Alle. Sie lebe!

So eft. Wahrlich, treffliche Weiber sind in dem Saufe Die Regentin lebe!

Fetter. Klug ist sie, und maßig in allem, was sie thut, hielte sie's nur nicht so steif und sest unt den Pfaffen! Sie ist doch auch mit schuld, daß wir die vierzehn neuen Bischoss=25 mugen im Lande haben Wozu die nur sollen? Nicht wahr, daß man Fremde in die guten Stellen einschieden kann, wo sonst Alebte aus den Kapiteln gewahlt wurden! Und wir sollen glauben, es set um der Religion willen Ia, es hat sich Aln dier Bischosen hatten wir genug. da ging's ehrlich 30 und ordentlich zu Nun nurf doch auch Seder thun, als ob er nothig ware, und da setz's allen Augenblick Verdruß und

Sandel Und je mehr ihr bas Ding ruttelt und schüttelt, besto truber wurd's. (Sie trinken)

Soeft. Das war nun bes Konigs Wille; sie kann nichts davon, noch bazu thun.

5 Fetter. Da follen wir nun die neuen Psalmen nicht singen; sie sind wahrlich gar schon in Reimen gesetzt, und haben recht erbauliche Weisen. Die sollen wir nicht singen, aber Schelmenlieder, so viel wir wollen. Und warum? Es seien Ketzeien drin, sagen sie, und Sachen, Gott weiß. Ich hab' ihrer doch auch gesungen, es ist jetzt was Neues, ich bab' nichts brin gesehen.

Buhck. Ich wollte sie fragen! In unsere Provinz singen wir, was wir wollen. Das macht daß Graf Egmont unser Statthalter ist, der fragt nach so etwas nicht — In 15 Gent, Opern, durch ganz Flandern singt sie, wer Belieben hat. (Laut) Es ist ja wohl nichts unschuldiger, als ein geistlich Lied? Nicht wahr, Bater?

Ruhfum. Ci wohl! Es ift ja ein Gottesbienft, eine Erbauung.

20 Jetter. Sie sagen aber, es sei nicht auf die rechte Art, nicht auf ihre Art, und gesahrlich ist's doch immer, da laßt man's lieber sein. Die Inquistionsdiener schleichen herum und passen auf, mancher ehrliche Mann ist schon unglucklich geworden. Der Gewissenszwang sehlte noch! Da ich nicht 25 thun darf, was ich mochte, konnen sie nich doch denken und singen lassen, was ich will.

So e ft. Die Inquisition kommt nicht auf Wir sind nicht gemacht, wie die Spanier, unser Gewissen ihrannisten zu lassen. Und der Abel muß auch bei Zeiten suchen, ihr 30 die Flugel zu beschneiden.

Jetter. Es ist sehr fatal. Wenn's ben lieben Leuten einfallt, in mein Saus zu fturmen, und ich sity' an meiner

Arbeit, und summe just einen franzosischen Psalm, und benke nichts dabei, weder Gutes noch Boses, ich summe ihn aber, weil er mir in der Kehle ist — gleich bin ich ein Keher, und werde eingesteckt. Oder ich gehe über Land und bleibe bei einem Hausen Wolks stehen, das einem neuen Prediger zu= 5 hort, einem von denen, die aus Deutschland gekommen sind — auf der Stelle heiß' ich ein Redell, und komme in Gesahr meinen Kopf zu verlieren. Habt Ihr je einen predigen horen?

Soeft. Wackre Leute. Neulich horte ich einen auf bem 10 Felbe vor tausend und tausend Menschen sprechen Das war ein ander Gekoch', als wenn unfre auf der Kanzel herumstrommeln und die Leute mit lateinischen Brocken erwürgen. Der sprach von der Leber weg, sagte, wie sie uns bisher hatten bei der Nase herumgefuhrt, uns in der Dummheit 15 erhalten, und wie wir mehr Erleuchtung haben konnten. — Und das bewieß er Euch alles aus der Bibel

Jetter. Da mag boch auch was dran sein. Ich sagt's inimer selbst, und grubelte so über die Sache nach. Mir ist's lang' im Kops herumgegangen.

Bunck. Es lauft ihnen auch alles Volk nach.

Soeft. Das glaub' ich, wo man was Gutes horen kann und mas Neues.

Tetter. Und was ist's benn nun? Man kann ja einen Jeden predigen lassen nach seiner Weise. 2

Buhaf. Frisch, ihr Herren! Ueber bem Schwahen vers gest Ihr ben Wein und Oranien.

Jetter. Den nicht zu vergessen! Das ist ein rechter Wall. Wenn man nur an ihn benkt, meint man gleich, man konne sich hinter ihn verstecken, und der Teufel brachte einen 30 nicht hervor. Soch! Wilhelm von Oranien, hoch!

Alle. Hoch! hoch!

Soeft. Nun, Alter, bring' auch Deine Gesundheit Ruhsum. Alte Solbaten! Alle Solbaten! Es lebe ber Krieg!

Buyd. Bravo, Alter! Alle Solvaten! Es lebe ber 5 Krieg!

Jetter. Krieg! Kieg! Wist Thr auch, was Ihr ruft?
Daß es Euch leicht vom Munde geht, ist wohl naturlich, wie lunipig aber unser Einem dabei zu Muthe ist, kann ich nicht sagen. Das ganze Jahr das Getrommel zu horen, und nichts 10 zu horen, als wie da ein Hausen gezogen kommt und dort ein andier, wie sie über einen Gugel kamen und bei einer Muhle hielten, wieviel da geblieben sind, wieviel dort, und wie sie sich drangen, und Einer gewinnt, der Andre verliert, ohne daß man sein Tage begreift, wer was gewinnt oder 15 verliert, wie eine Stadt eingenommen wird, die Burger ermordet werden, und wie's den armen Weibern, den uns schuldigen Kindern ergeht. Das ist eine Noth und Angst, man denkt jeden Augenblick "Da kommen sie! Es geht uns auch so"

20 Soeft. Drum muß auch ein Burger immer in Waffen geubt fein.

Tetter. Ia, es ubt sich, wer Frau und Kinder hat. Und doch hor' ich noch lieber von Soldaten, als ich sie sehe.

Buhd. Das follt' ich ubel nehmen.

25 Jetter. Auf Cuch ist's nicht gesagt, Landsmann. Wie wir die spanischen Besatzungen sos waren, holten wir wieder Athem.

Soest. Gelt! Die lagen Dir am schwersten auf? Jetter. Berir' Er sich.

30 Soest Die hatten scharse Einquartierung bei Dir. Jetter. Halt' Dein Maul. Soest. Sie hatten ihn bertrieben aus der Kuche, dem Keller, der Stube — dem Bette.

(Sie lachen)

Jetter. Du bift ein Tiopf.

Buhck. Friede, ihr Herren! Muß der Soldat Friede 5 rufen? — Nun da Ihr von uns nichts horen wollt, nun bringt auch Cure Gesundheit aus, eine burgerliche Gesundheit.

Jetter. Dazk sind wir bereit. Sicherheit und Ruhe!

Soeft. Ordnung und Freiheit!

Buhd. Brav! das find auch wir zufrieben.

(Sie floßen an und wiederholen frohluch die Worte, doch fo, daß Ieder ein anderes ausruft, und es eine Art Kanon wird. Der Alte horcht und fallt endlich auch mit ein)

Alle. Sicherheit und Ruhe! Ordnung und Freiheit!

Palaft ber Rogentin.

15

10

Margarete von Parma in Jagbfleibein. Hoflente Bagen. Bebiente.

Regentin. Ihr stellt das Jagen ab, ich werde heut nicht reiten. Sagt Machiavellen, er soll zu mir kommen.

(Alle gehen ab)

20

Der Gebanke an diese schiedlichen Begebenheiten laßt mir keine Ruhe! Nichts kann nich ergeigen, nichts mich zer= streuen, immer sind diese Bilder, diese Soigen vor mir. Nim wird der Konig sagen, dies sei'n die Volgen meiner Gute, meiner Nachsicht, und doch sagt nir mein Gewissen zieden Augenblick, das Nathlichste, das Beste gethan zu haben. Sollte ich fruher mit dem Stuime des Grimmes diese Vlammen

anfachen und umhertreiben? Ich hoffte fle zu umftellen, fle in sich selbst zu verschutten Ia, was ich mir felbst fage, was ich wohl weiß, entschuldigt mich vor mir felbst, aber wie wud es mein Bruder aufnehmen? Denn ist es zu 5 leugnen? Der Uebermuth ber frentden Lehrer hat fich tag= lich erhoht, sie haben unfer Beiligthum gelastert, die ftumpfen Sinne bes Pobels zerruttet und den Schwindelgeist unter sie Unteine Geister haben fich unter die Aufruhrer genuscht, und schreckliche Thaten find geschehen, die zu benken 10 fchauderhaft ift, und die ich nun einzeln nach Sofe zu berichten habe, schnell und einzeln, banut mir ber allgemeine Ruf nicht zuvor komme, bamit ber Konig nicht bente, man wolle noch niehr verheimlichen Ich sehe kein Mittel, weder ftrenges noch gelindes, dem Uebel zu fteuern D mas find 15 wir Großen auf ber Woge ber Menschheit? Wir glauben fie zu beheirschen, und sie treibt uns auf und nieder, hin und her.

Machravell tritt auf.

Regentin. Sind die Briefe an den Konig aufgesett? 20 Machtavell. In einer Stunde werdet Ihr sie untersfchieben konnen.

Regentin. Sabt Ihr ben Bericht ausfuhilich genug genacht?

Machtavell. Ausfuhrlich und umstandlich, wie es ber 25 Konig liebt Ich eizahle, wie zuerst zu St Omer die bilderstummerische Wuth sich zeigt — wie eine rasende Wenge mit Staben, Beilen, Hammern, Leitern Stricken versehen, von weing Bewaffneten begleitet, erst Kapellen, Kirchen und Kloster anfallen, die Andachtigen verjagen, die verschlossenen Pforten 30 ausbrechen, Alles umtehen, die Altare niederieisen, die Statuen der Heiligen zeischlagen, alle Gemalde verdeiben, Alles was sie

nur Geweihtes, Geheiligtes antreffen, zerschmettern, zerreißen, zertreten — wie sich ber Hause unterwegs vermehrt, die Ein= wohner von Opern ihnen die Thore eroffnen — wie sie den Dom mit unglaublicher Schnelle verwusten, die Bibliothek des Bischoss verbrennen — wie eine große Wenge Volks, von 5 gleichem Unstinn eigriffen, sich über Menin, Comines, Verwich, Lille verbreitet, nugend Widerstand sindet, und wie sast durch ganz Flandern in Einem Augenblicke die ungeheure Verschworung sich erklatt und ausgeführt ist.

Regentin. Ach, wie ergreift mich aufs Neue der Schnierz 10 bei Deiner Wiederholung! Und die Furcht gesellt sich dazu, das Uebel werde nur großer und großer werden Sagt nur Eure Gedanken, Machiavell!

Machiavell. Verzeihen Eure Hoheit, meine Gebanken sehen Grillen so ahnlich, und weim Ihr auch immer mit is meinen Diensten zuslieben wart, habt Ihr doch selten meinem Nath folgen mogen. Ihr sagtet oft im Scherze "Du stehst zu weit, Machiavell! Du solltest Geschichtschienber sein. Wer handelt, muß furs Nachste sorgen." Und doch, habe ich diese Geschichte nicht voraus erzahlt? Hab ich nicht Alles voraus 20 gesehen?

Regentin. Ich sehe auch viel voraus, ohne es andern zu konnen.

Machiabell. Ein Wort fur tausend İhr unterdruckt bie neue Lehre nicht. Laßt sie gelten, sondert sie von den 25 Nechtglaubigen, gebt ihnen Kirchen, saßt sie in die burger= liche Ordnung, schianst sie ein, und so habt Ihr die Auf= ruhier auf einmal zur Ruhe gebiacht. Tede andern Mittel sind vergeblich, und Ihr verheert daß Land

Regentin. Haft Du vergessen, mit welchem Abscheu 30 mein Bruder selbst die Frage verwarf, ob man die neue Lehre dulden konne? Weißt Du nicht, wie er mir in jedem 2

Briefe die Erhaltung des wahren Glaubens aufs eifzigste empsiehlt, daß er Ruhe und Emigkeit auf Kosten der Religion nicht hergestellt wissen will? Salt er nicht selbst in den Produizen Spione, die wir nicht kennen, um zu erfahren, 5 wer sich zu der neuen Weinung hinuber neigt? Hat er nicht zu unfrer Verwunderung und Diesen und Ienen genannt, der sich in unsier Nahe heimlich der Ketzeie schuldig machte? Besiehlt er nicht Strenge und Scharfe? Und ich soll gelind sein? Ich soll Worschlage thun, daß er nachsehe, daß er wilde? Wurde ich nicht alles Vertiauen, allen Glauben bei ihm verlieren?

Mach ia vell. Ich weiß wohl, ber Konig besiehlt, er laßt Euch seine Absichten wissen. Ihr follt Ruhe und Friede wieder herstellen durch ein Mittel, das die Gemuther noch 15 mehr erbittert, das den Krieg unvermeidlich an allen Enden anblasen wird. Bedenkt, was Ihr thut. Die großten Kaufeleute sind angesteckt, der Adel, das Bolf, die Soldaten Was hilft es auf seinen Gedanken beharren, wenn sich um uns Alles ändert? Wochte doch ein guter Geist Philippen 20 eingeben, daß es einem Konige anstandiger ist, Burger zweierlei Glaubens zu regieren, als sie durch einander aufs zureihen.

Regentin. Solch ein Wort nie wieder! Ich weiß wohl, daß Politik selten Treu und Glauben halten kann, daß 25 sie Offenheit, Gutherzigkeit, Nachgiebigkeit aus unsern Heizen ausschließt. In weltlichen Geschaften ist das leider nur zu wahr, sollen wir aber auch nit Gott spielen wie unter einander? Sollen wir gleichgultig gegen unser bewahrte Lehre sein, für die so Viele ihr Leben ausgeopfert haben? 30 Die sollten wir hingeben an hergelaufne, ungewisse, sich selbst wideisprechende Neuerungen?

Machtabell. Denkt nur bestwegen nicht ubler bon mir!

Regentin. Ich kenne Dich und Deine Treue, und weiß, daß Einer ein ehrlicher und verstandiger Mann sein kann, wenn er gleich den nachsten besten Weg zum Seil seiner Seele versehlt hat. Es sind noch Andere, Machiavell, Manner, die ich schagen und tadeln nuß.

Machtavell. Wen bezeichnet Ihr mir?

Regentin. Ich kann es gestehen, daß mir Egmont heute einen recht innerlichen, tiefen Verdruß erregte.

Machiavell. Duich welches Betragen?

Regentin. Durch sein gewohnliches, durch Gleichgüstig= 10 feit und Leichtsinn Ich erhielt die schreckliche Botschaft, eben als ich von Bielen und ihm begleitet, auß der Kirche ging. Ich hielt meinen Schmerz nicht an, ich beklagte mich laut und rief, indem ich nuch zu ihnt wendete ", Seht, was in Eurer Provinz entsteht! Das duldet Ihr, Graf, von dem 15 der Konig sich Alles versprach?"

Machiavell. Und was antwortete er?

Regentin. Als wenn es nichts, als wenn es eine Nebensache ware, versetzte er: Waren nur erst die Nieder= lander über ihre Versassung berühigt! Das Ueblige wurde 20 sich leicht geben.

Machtave II. Vielleicht hat er wahrer, als klug und fromm gesprochen. Wie soll Zutrauen entstehen und bleiben, wenn der Niederlander sieht, daß es mehr um seine Besitzthumer als um seine Wohl, um seiner Seele Heil zu thun 25 ist? Haben die neuen Bischose mehr Seelen gezettet, als sette Pfrunden geschmaust, und sind es nicht meist Frentde? Noch werden alle Statthalterschaften mit Niederlandein besetzt, lassen sich es die Spanier nicht zu deutlich merken, daß sie großte, unwiderschlichste Begierde nach diesen Stellen 30 empsinden? Will ein Volk nicht lieber nach seiner Alt von den Seinigen regiert weiden, als von Fremden, die erst im

Lande sich wieder Besitzthumer auf Unkosten Aller zu erwerben suchen, die einen fremden Maßstab mitbringen, und unfreundlich und ohne Theilnehmung herischen?

Regentin. Du stellft Dich auf die Seite ber Gegner. Machiavell. Mit bem Geizen gewiß nicht, und wollte, ich konnte mit bem Beistande gang auf ber unfrigen sein.

Regentin Wenn Du so willst, so that' es noth, ich trate ihnen meine Regentschaft ab, denn Egmont und Oranien machten sich große Hoffnung diesen Plat einzunehmen Dasionals waren sie Gegner, jetzt sind sie gegen mich verbunden, sind Freunde, unzertrennliche Freunde geworden.

Machiavell. Ein gefahrliches Paar.

Regentin Soll ich aufrichtig reben, ich furchte Oianien und ich funchte fin Egmont. Oranien stinnt nichts 15 Gutes, seine Gebanken reichen in die Verne, er ist heimlich, scheint Alles anzunehmen, widerspricht nie, und in tiefster Chisurcht, mit großter Vorsicht thut er, was ihm beliebt

Machtabell. Recht im Gegentheil geht Egmont einen fieien Schritt, als wenn bie Welt ihm gehorte.

Regentin Er tragt bas Haupt so hoch, als wenn bie Hand ber Majestat nicht über ihm schwebte

Machiavell. Die Augen bes Volks sind alle nach ihm gerichtet, und die Serzen hangen an ihm

Regentin. Die hat er einen Schein vernieben, als 25 wenn niemand Rechenschaft von ihm zu fordern hatte! Noch tragt er den Namen Cymont. Graf Cymont fieut ihn sich nennen zu horen, als wollte er nicht vergessen, daß seine Vorfahren Bester von Geldern waren. Warum nennt er sich nicht Prinz von Game, wie es ihm zulommt? 30 Warum thut er daß? Will er erloschne Rechte wieder gelztend machen?

Machiavell. Ich halte ihn fur einen treuen Diener bes Konigs

Regentin. Wenn er wollte, wie verdient konnte er sich um die Regierung machen, anstatt daß er und schon, ohne sich zu nußen, unsaglichen Verdruß gemacht hat! Seine 5 Gesellschaften, Gastmahle und Gelage haben den Adel mehr verbunden und verknupft, als die gesahllichsten heimlichen Zusammenkunste Mit seinen Gesundheiten haben die Gaste einen daueinden Rausch, einen nie sich verziehenden Schwindel geschopft. Wie oft setzt er duich seine Scherzreden die Ge- 10 muther des Volks in Bewegung, und wie stutzte der Pobel über die neuen Livieen, über die thorichten Abzeichen der Bedeinten!

Machiavell Ich bin überzeugt, es war ohne Absicht Regentin Schlinm genug Wie ich sage ei schadet 15 uns, und nutt sich nicht Er ninnit das Ernstliche scheizschaft, und wir, um nicht mußig und nachlassig zu scheinen, mussen das Scheizhafte einstlich nehmen So hetzt Eins das Andre, und was man abzuwenden sucht, das niacht sich eist recht Er ist gesahrlicher als ein entschiednes Haupt einer 20 Weischworung, und ich mußte mich sehr uren, wenn man ihm bei Hose nicht Alles gedenkt. Ich kann nicht leugnen, es veigeht wenig Zeit, daß ei mich nicht empsindlich, sehr empsindlich macht.

Machtavell. Er scheint mir in Allem nach seinem 25 Gewissen zu handeln

Regentin Sein Gewissen hat einen gefalligen Spiegel Sein Betragen ist oft beleidigend. Er sieht oft aus, als wenn er in der volligen lleberzeugung lebe, er sei Beit, und wolle es uns nur aus Gefalligkeit nicht fuhlen lassen, wolle 30 uns so gerade nicht zum Lande hinauszagen, es werde sich schon geben.

Machiavell. Ich bitte Euch, legt feine Offenheit, fein gluckliches Blut, das alles Wichtige leicht behandelt, nicht zu gefahrlich aus! Ihr schabet nur ihm und Euch.

Regentin. Ich lege nichts aus. Ich spreche nur von 5 den unvermeidlichen Kolgen, und ich kenne ihn. Sein nieders landischer Abel und sein golden Bließ vor der Brust starken sein Vertrauen, seine Kuhnheit. Beides kann ihn vor einem schnellen, wilkfurlichen Unnuth des Konigs schutzen. Unterssuch' es genau, an dem ganzen Ungluck, das Vlandern trisst, io ist er doch nur allein schuld. Er hat zuerst den siemben Lehrern nachgesehn, hat's so genau nicht genommen, und vielleicht sich heimlich gefreut, daß wir etwas zu schaffen hatten. Laß mich nur! Was ich auf dem Herzen habe, soll bei dieser Gelegenheit davon Und ich will die Pfeile nicht inmsonst verschießen, ich weiß, wo er empfindlich ist. Er ist auch empfindlich.

Machtavell. Habt Ihr den Rath zusammen berufen laffen? Kommt Dramen auch?

Regentin. Ich habe nach Antwerpen um ihn geschickt.

The will ihnen die Last der Verantwortung nahe genug zuwalzen; sie sollen sich mit mir dem Uebel ernstlich entgegensehen oder sich auch als Rebellen erklaien. Eile, daß die Briese fertig werden und bringe mir sie zur Unterschiest Dann sende schnell den bewahrten Vaska nach Wadrid — er ist unermudet und treu — daß mein Bruder zuerst durch ihn die Nachricht ersahre, daß der Rus ihn nicht übereile! Ich will ihn selbst noch spiechen, eh' er abgeht.

Machtabell. Eure Befehle sollen schnell und genau befolgt werben.

Burgerhaus.

Rlare Alarens Mutter Bradenburg

Klaie. Wollt Ihr mir nicht das Garn halten, Bracken= 'burg?

Brackenburg Ich bitt' Euch, verschont nuch, Klarchen. 5 Klare. Was habt Ihr wieder? Warum versagt Ihr mir biesen kleinen Liebesbienst?

Brackenburg. Ih bannt mich mit bem Zwirn fo fest vor Euch hin, ich kann Guern Augen nicht ausrveichen.

Rlare. Grillen! fommt und haltet!

Mutter (im Sessel struckend) Singt doch Eins! Bracken= buig secundirt so hubsch Sonst wart ihr lustig, und ich hatte immer was zu lachen.

Bradenburg. Sonft.

Klare. Wir wollen fingen

Bradenburg. Was Ihr wollt

Klare. Nur hubsch munter und frisch weg! Es ifi

(Sie wickelt Gain und fingt mit Brackenburg)

Die Trommel geruhret, Das Pfeischen gespielt! Mein Liebster gewaffnet Dem Gausen besiehlt, be Die Lanze hoch suhret, Die Leute regieret Wie klopft mur das Herze, Wie wallt mir das Blut! D, hatt' ich ein Wammslein Und Hossen und Hut!

25

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ro

15

5

Ich folgt' ihm zum Thor 'naus Mit nuthigem Schitt, Ging' burch die Provinzen, Ging' uberall nut. Die Teinbe schon weichen, Wir schießen darein. Welch Glud-sonder Gleichen, Ein Mannsbild zu sein

(Naackenbutg hat unter bem Singen Klarchen oft angesehen; 'julest' 10-bleibt ihm die Stimme stocken, die Thanen kommen ihm in die Augen, er läßt den Strang fallen und geht and Fenster Klarchen singt das Lied allein gus, die Mutter winkt ihr halb unwillig, sie sieht auf, geht einige Schritte nach ihm hin, kehrt halb unschlussig wieder um, und fest sich)

15 Mutter. Was giebt's auf ber Gaffe, Brackenburg? Ichhore marschiren.

Bradenburg. Es ift die Leibwache ber Regentin.

Reare. Um biese Stunde? Was soll bas bedeuten? Sie steht auf und geht an das Fenster zu Bruckenburg) Das ist nicht die tagliche Wache, das sind weit iniehr! Fast alle ihre Hausen. D Brackenburg, geht! hort einmal, was es giebt. Es niuß etwas Besonderes sein. Geht, guter Brackenburg, thut nir den Gesallen.

Brackenburg. Ich gehe! Ich bin gleich wieder da. 25. (Er reicht ihr abgehend die Hand, sie giebt ihm die ihrige)

Mutter. Du schickst ihn schon wieder weg.

Klare. Ich bin neugierig, und auch, verdenkt mur's nicht, seine Gegenwart thut nur weh. Ich weiß immer nicht, wie ich mich gegen ihn betragen soll. Ich habe Unrecht 30 gegen ihn, und mich nagt's am Herzen, daß er es so lebendig fuhlt — Kann ich's doch nicht andern!

Mutter. Es ift ein fo tiener Buriche.

Klare. Ich kann's auch nicht lassen, ich muß ihm seundlich begegnen. Weine Sand drückt sich oft unversehens zu, wenn die seine nich so leise, so liebevoll anfaßt. Ich mache mir Worwürse, daß ich ihn betruge, daß ich in seinem Serzen eine vergebliche Hossinung nähre. Ich bin ubel dran. 5 Weiß Gott, ich betrüg' ihn nicht. Ich will nicht, daß er hossen soll, und ich kann ihn doch nicht verzweiseln lassen.

Mutter. Das ift nicht gut.

Klare. Ich hatte ihn gern, und will ihnt auch noch wohl in der Seele Ich hatte ihn heirathen konnen, und 10 glaube, ich war nie in ihn verliebt.

Mutter. Glücklich wärst Du immer mit ihm gewesen. Klare. Wäre versorgt und hätte ein ruhiges Leben.

Mutter. Und das ist alles durch Deine Schuld ver= . scherzt.

Klare. Ich bin in einer wunderlichen Lage Wenn ich so nachdenke, wie es gegangen ist, weiß ich's wohl und weiß es nicht. Und dann darf ich Egmont nur wieder anschen, wird mir Alles sehr begreislich, ja ware nur weit in ehr begreislich. Alch, was ist's ein Mann! Alle Provinzen beten 20 ihn an, und ich in seinem Alin sollte nicht das glucklichste Geschopf von der Welt sein?

Mutter. Wie wird's in der Zukunst werden? Klare. Ach, ich frage nur, ob er nuch liebt, und ob er nuch liebt, ist das eine Frage?

Mutter. Man hat nichts als Herzensangst mit seinen Kindern. Wie bas ausgehen wird! Immer Sorge und Kummer! Es geht nicht gut aus! Du hast dich unglicklich gemacht, mich unglucklich gemacht!

Klare (gelaffen). Ihr ließet es doch im Anfange. 30 Mutter. Leider war ich zu gut, bin immer zu gut.

Klare Wenn Egmont vorbeilitt, und ich ans Tenster lief, schaltet Ihr nuch da? Tratet Ihr nicht selbst ans Fenster? Wenn er herauf sah, lachelte, nicke, nuch grußte, war es Euch zuwider? Tandet Ihr Cuch nicht selbst in Eurer Tochter 5 geehrt?

Mutter. Mache mir noch Vorwurfe!

Klare (gerüht) Wenn er nun ofter die Straße kan, und wir wohl suhlten, daß er um meinetwillen den Weg machte, bemeiktet Ihr's nicht selbst mit heimlicher Treude? 10 Riest Ihr mich ab, wenn ich hinter den Scheiben stand und ihn erwartete?

Mutter Dachte ich, daß es so weit kommen follte?

Klare (mit flockender Stumme und zuruckgehaltenen Thianen) Und wie er und Abends, in den Mantel eingehullt, bei der 15 Lampe uberraschte — wer war geschaftig, ihn zu empfangen, da ich auf meinem Stuhl wie angekettet und staunend sigen blieb?

Mutter. Und konnte ich furchten, daß diese ungluckliche Liebe das kluge Klarchen so bald hinreißen wurde? Ich muß 20 es nun tragen, daß meine Tochter —

Klaze (mit ausbiechenben Thianen) Mutter! Ihr wollt's nun! Ihr habt Eure Freude, mich zu angstigen.

Mutter (weinenb) Weine noch gar! Mache mich noch elender durch Deine Betrubniß! Ift mir's nicht Kummer 25 genug, daß meine einzige Tochter ein verworfenes Ge= schoof ift?

Klare (auffiehend und kalt) Verworfen! Egmonts Geliebte, verworfen? — Welche Furstin neidete nicht bas arme Klaichen um den Platz an seinem Heizen! D Mutter — 30 meine Mutter, so redetet Ihr sonst nicht. Liebe Mutter, seid aut! Das Bolk, was das denkt, die Nachbarinnen, was

τo

bie murmeln — Diese Stube, bieses kleine Saus ist ein Himmel, feit Egmonts Liebe brin wohnt

Mutter. Man muß ihm hold fein! Das ist wahr' Er ist immer so freundlich, frei und offen.

Klare. Es ist keine falsche Aber an ihm. Seht, Mutter, 5 und er ist doch der große Egmont. Und wenn er zu mu kommt, wie er so lieb ist, so gut! wie er mir seinen Stand, seine Tapserkeit gerne verdarge! wie er um mich besorgt ist! so nur Mensch, nur Freund, Liebster!

Mutter. Kommt er wohl heute?

Klare. Habt Ihr mich nicht oft ans Tenfter gehen sehn? Sabt Ihr nicht bemerkt, wie ich horche, wenn's an der Thure aulscht?—Ob ich schon weiß, daß er vor Nacht nicht kommt, vermuth' ich ihn doch seden Augenblick, von Morgens an, wenn ich aufstehe War' ich nur ein Bube und konnte immer 15 mit ihm gehen, zu Hofe und uberall hin! Konnt' ihm die Fahne nachtragen in der Schlacht!—

Mutter. Du warst immer so ein Springinsselb, als ein kleines Kind schon, bald toll, bald nachdenklich Ziehst Du Dich nicht ein wenig besser an?

Klare. Bielleicht, Mutter! wenn ich Langeweile habe '- Geftern, benkt, 'gingen von feinen Leuten vorbei und fangen Loblieden auf ihn Wenigstens war sein Name in ben Liebern Das Uebrige konnt' ich nicht verstehn Das Serz schlug mir bis an den Hals. — Ich hatte ste gern 25 zuruckgerufen, wenn ich nicht geschamt hätte.

Mutter Nimm Dich in Acht! Dein heftiges Wefen verbirdt noch Alles, du verlathst Dich offenbal vor den Leuten. Wie neulich bei dem Vetter, wie Du den Holzschnitt und die Beschreibung fandst und mit einem Schrei riefst 30 Graf Egmont! — Ich ward scherroth

Rlare. Satt' ich nicht schienen follen? Es mar bie

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Schlacht bei Gravelingen, und ich finde oben im Bilde den Buchstaben C. und suche unten in der Beschreibung C Steht da "Graf Egmont, dem das Pferd unter dem Leibe todt geschossen wird." Mich überließ — und hernach mußt' ich bachen über den holzgeschnisten Egmont, der so groß war als der Thurm von Gravelingen gleich daber und die englischen Schisse an der Seite. — Wenn ich mich manchmal erinnere, wie ich mir sonst eine Schlacht vorgestellt, und was ich mir als Madchen für ein Bild vom Grasen Egmont machte, wenn 10 sie von ihm erzahlten, und von allen Grasen und Kursten — und wie mir's zeht ist!

Bradenburg fommt.

Rlare. Wie fteht's?

Bradenburg. Man weiß nichts Gewisses In Flan-15 bern soll neuerdings ein Tumult entstanden sein, die Regentin soll besorgen, er mochte sich hierher verbreiten. Das Schloß ist start besetzt, die Burger sind zahlreich an den Thoren, das Volk summt in den Gassen. — Ich will nur schnell zu meinem alten Bater.

(Alls wollt' er gehen)

Klare. Sieht man Euch morgen? Ich will mich ein weing anziehen Der Better kommt, und ich sehe gar zu Liederlich aus. Selft mir einen Augenblick, Mutter — Nehmt das Buch mit, Brackenburg, und bringt mir wieder 25 so eine Hitorie.

Mutter. Lebt mobl!

Brackenburg (seine hand reichend) Cure Hand! Klate (ihre Hand versagend). Wenn Ihr wieder kommt. (Mutter und Tochter ab)

30 Brackenburg (allem) Ich hatte mir vorgenommen grade wieder fort zu gehn, und da ste es dasur aufnimmt

und mich geben laßt, mocht' ich rasend werden - Unglucklicher! Und bich ruhrt beines Baterlandes Geschick nicht, ber wachsende Tuntult nicht? - Und gleich ist dir Landsmann och ober Spanier, und wer regiert, und wer Recht hat ? - War ich doch ein andier Junge als Schulknabe! - Wenn ba ein 5 Exercitium aufgegeben mar - "Brutus' Rebe fur die Freiheit, zur Uebung ber Rebefunft" - ba war boch immer Trig ber Erfte, und ber Rector fagte . Wenn's nur orbentlicher mare, nur nicht Alles so uber einander gestolpert. - Damals kocht' es und trieb! - Sett fchlepp' ich mich an ben Augen bes 10 Madchens so hin. Kann ich fie boch nicht laffen! Kann fte mich boch nicht lieben! - Ach - Nein - Sie - Sie fann mich nicht ganz beiworfen haben - Micht ganz - und halb und nichts! - Ich bulb' es nicht langer! - Sollte es mahr fein, mas mit ein Freund neulich ins Dhr fagte, bag 15 sie Nachts einen Mann heimlich zu sich einlaßt, ba fie mich zuchtig immer bor Albend aus bem Hause treibt? Mein, es ift nicht mahr, es ift eine Luge, eine schandliche, verleumderische Luge! Klarchen ift so unschuldig, als ich unglucklich bin. -Sie hat mich berworfen, hat mich von ihrem Herzen ge= 20 ftoffen - Und ich foll fo fort leben? Ich duld', ich duld' es nicht - Coon wird mein Vaterland von innerm Bwifte heftiger bewegt, und ich fterbe unter bem Getummel nur ab! Ich bulb' es nicht! - Wenn die Trompete klingt, em Schuß fallt, mir fahrt's buich Mark und Bein! Ach, 25 es reizt nuch nicht! Es forbert nuch nicht, auch mit einzugreifen, mit zu retten, zu magen - Clender, schimpflicher Buftand! Es ift beffer, ich end' auf einmal. Neulich fturgt' ich mich ins Waffer, ich fant - aber die geangstete Natur war starker, ich fuhlte, daß ich schwimmen konnte, und rettete 30 mich wider Willen. - - Konnt' ich ber Beit vergeffen, ba fie mich liebte, mich zu lieben schien ! - Warum hat mir's

Mark und Bein buichbrungen, bas Gluck? Warum baben mir diese Hoffnungen allen Genuff bes Lebens aufgezehrt, indem fie mir ein Paradies von Weitem zeigten ? - Und jener erfte Jener einzige! - hier, (bie Sand auf ben Tisch legenb) 5 hier waren wir allein — fle war immer gut und freundlich gegen mich gewesen - ba schien sie sich zu erweichen - sie fah mich an - alle Sinne gingen mir um, und ich fuhlte thie Lippen auf ben meinigen - Und - und nun? - Stirb Was zauberft Du? (Er gieht ein Flaschichen aus ber Ich will Dich nicht umsonst aus meines Brubers 10 Tasche) Doktorkastehen gestohlen haben, beilfames Gift! Du sollst mir dieses Bangen, diese Schwindel, diese Todesschweiße auf einnial verschlingen und losen.



ARGUMENT

ACT II.

The scene of the first part of the second act is laid in a public square at Brussels. Jetter, the tailor, and a master carpenter enter, conversing on the riotous conduct of the Iconoclasts in the provinces. The two speakers are joined by Soest, the shopkeeper, who brings the information that the Regent has, on account of the growing tumults, lost all self-possession, and that it is even rumoured that she means to fly from the town. A soap-boiler makes his appearance, and admonishes the assembled citizens to keep the peace, lest they should be treated as rioters.

By degrees a crowd assembles, and Vansen, a lawyer's clerk, joins them. He explains to the people their constitutional rights and privileges, upbraids them for their passive conduct, and adroitly endeavours to incite them to imitate the example set by their 'iconoclastic brethren' in Flanders, this ill-advised utterance brings down upon him a chastisement from the hands of the peaceable soap-boiler, who is, in his turn, severely handled by the people for ill-treating a 'respectable citizen' and a 'learned man'. A disturbance ensues, which ends in a most riotous and tumultuous scene, admidst shouts of 'Freedom and Privileges! Privileges and Freedom!'

Suddenly Egmont enters with his followers. His appearance soon calms the upioar. He is greeted as an 'angel from heaven,' and the people quietly gather round him. He urges them not to provoke the king still farther, and not to imagine that privileges are secured by sedition. The crowd for the most part disperses, and Egmont retness

with his followers Jetter, the tailor, and the master carpenter express their regret that the king did not appoint Egmont their Regent, and the former utters the ominous remark that Egmont's fine neck would be a dainty morsel for the headsman

The scene now changes to Egmont's residence His Secretary expects him with impatience, and informs him on his appearance that the letters which have arrived contain much, but little that is cheering. After having reported the topics referring to public business, the Secretary reminds Egmont of his filial duty towards Count Oliva, who 'loves him as a father,' and who expects an answer to his affectionate and admonitory letter. Egmont demurs to the stern tone of the Count's constantly recurring moralizings, and defends his light-heartedness, which makes him take life easy. The Secretary raises his warning voice against the exuberant heedlessness of Egmont, who dismisses him, however, on account of the expected arrival of the Prince of Orange.

The Secretary retires, and William of Orange enters The two friends speak of the conference which they had with the Regent, and of the probability of her departure Egmont will not believe it, but Orange has his misgivings. He knows that the Duke of Alva is on his way to the Netherlands with an army, and knowing as he does his 'blood-thirsty mind,' he fears that despotic measures will be resorted to Orange therefore advises his friend to withdraw with him into the provinces, where they might strengthen themselves. Egmont, however, has implicit confidence in Charles's son, who is 'incapable of meanness'. All the earnest entreaties, and even the tears of Orange, who 'does not consider it unmanly to weep for a lost man,' prove futile. Egmont's noble nature is incapable of suspicion or anxiety, and he will—remain.

3 weiter Aufzug

Plat in Bruffel.

Jetter und ein Bimmermeister tieten zusammen

Zimmermeister. Sagt' ich's nicht voraus? Noch vor acht Tagen auf der Zunft fagt' ich, es wurde schwere Gandel 5 geben

Tetter. If's denn mahr, daß sie die Kuchen in Flandein geplundeit haben?

Bimmermeister. Ganz und gar zu Giunde gerichtet haben sie Kirchen und Kapellen Nichts als die vier nackten 10 Wande haben so stehen lassen Lauter Lumpengesindel! Und das macht unfre gute Sache schlimm. Wir hatten eher, in der Ordnung und standhaft, unseie Gerechtsame der Regentin vortragen und diauf halten sollen Reden wur jetzt, versammeln wir und zeigt, so heißt es, wir gesellen und zu den 15 Aluswieglern.

Setter. Ja, so benkt Jeder zuerst was sollst Du mit

Bimmermeister Mir, ist's bange, wenn's einmal 20 unter bem Bolt, bas nichts zu verlieren hat Die biauchen das zum Vorwande, worauf wir uns auch berufen mussen, und biungen bas Land in Ungluck.

77.

Soest tritt bazu

Soeft. Guten Tag, ihr Herren! Was giebt's Neues? Ift's wahr, daß die Bilderfturmer gerade hierher ihren Lauf nehmen?

Bimmermeister. Hier sollen ste nichts anruhren.

Soest. Es trat ein Solbat ber mir ein, Toback zu kausen; ben fragt' ich aus Die Regentin, so eine wacker kluge Frausie bleibt, diesnial ist sie außer Fassung. Es muß sehr arg sein, daß sie sich so geradezu hinter ihre Wache versteckt. Die Burg ist scharf besetzt. Man meint sogar, sie wolle aus der Stadt sluchten.

Brmmermerster. Hinaus soll sie nicht! Ihre Gegen= wart beschüt uns, und wir wollen ihr mehr Sicherheit ver= schaffen, als ihre Stubbarte. Und wenn sie uns unfre Rechte 15' und Freiheiten ausiecht erhalt, so wollen wir sie auf den Handen tragen.

Serfensieber tutt bagu

Seifen sieber. Garftige Handel! Ueble Handel! Es wurd unzuhig und geht schief aus! — Hutet Cuch, daß Ihr 20 stille bleibt, daß man Euch nicht auch für Auswiegler halt.

Soest. Da kommen die steben Weisen aus Griechen= land.

Setfensieder. Ich weiß, da sind Biele, die es heinzlich mit den Kalvinisten halten, die auf die Bischofe lastern, 25 die den Konig nicht scheuen. Aber ein treuer Unterthan, ein ausüchtiger Katholife!—

(Es gesellt sich nach und nach allerlet Wolf zu ihnen und horcht.)

Banfen futt bagu.

Vansen. Gott gruß' Tuch, Herrn! Was Neues? 30 Zimmermerster. Gebt Euch mit dem nicht ab, das ist ein schlechter Keil.

τo

Jetter. Ist es nicht ber Schreiber beim Doctor Wiets?
Zimmermerster. Er hat schon viele Geiren gehabt. Erst war er Schreiber, und wie ihn ein Patron nach bem andern fortsagte, Schelmstreiche halber, pfuscht er zett No=taien und Advocaten ins Handwerk, und ist ein Biannt= 5 weinzaps.

(Cs kommt mehr Bolk zusammen und fteht truppweise)

Banfen. Ihr feib auch versammelt, ftedt bie Ropfe gusammen. Es ift mmer regenswerth.

مرأم أأوالانا

Soeft. Ich bent' auch.

Banfen. Wenn jest Ciner ober ber Andere Geis hatte, und Ciner ober der Andere ben Kopf bazu, wir konnten bie spanischen Ketten auf einmal sprengen.

Soest. Herre' So mußt ihr nicht reden. Wir haben bem Konig geschwoien.

Vansen. Und bei Konig und. Merkt bas Jetter. Das läßt sich horen! Sagt Cure Meinung! Cinige Andere. Horch, der versteht's. Der hat Pfiffe.

Dansen. Ich hatte einen alten Patron, der besaß Persgamente und Briese von malten Stiftungen, Kontrakten und 20 Gerechtigkeiten, er hielt auf die raisen Bucher. In einem stand unsere ganze Versassung wie und Niederlander zuerst einzelne dursten regierten, alles nach hergebrachten Nechten, Privilegien und Gewohnheiten — wie unse Vorsahren alle Chrsurcht für ihren dursten gehabt, wenn er ste regiert wie er 25 sollte, und wie sie sich gleich vorsahen, wenn er uber die Schnur hauen wollte. Die Staaten waren gleich hinterdiem, denn sede Provinz, so klein sie war, hatte ihre Staaten, ihre Landstande.

Bimmermeister. Saltet Cuer Maul! Das weiß man 30

lange! Cin jeber rechtschaffne Burger ift, so viel er braucht, von ber Berfassung unterrichtet.

Jetter. Last ihn reden, man erfahrt immer etwas mehr.

5 Soest. Er hat ganz Recht.

Mehrere. Erzahlt, erzahlt! So was hort man nicht alle Lage.

Banfen. So setd Ihr Burgersleute! Ihr lebt nur so in den Tag hin, und wie Ihr Euer Gewerb' von Euern Eltern. 10 uberkommen habt, so laßt Ihr auch das Regiment uber Euch schalten und walten, wie es kann und mag Ihr fragt nicht nach dem Terkommen, nach der Historie, nach dem Necht eines Regenten, und über das Versaumunß haben Euch die Spanier das Netz uber die Ohren gezogen.

15 Soest Wer bentt ba bran? Wenn Einer nur das tag= liche Brob hat!

Jetter. Verflucht! Warum tritt auch Keiner in Zeiten auf, und sagt Cinem so etwas?

Wansen. Ich sag' es Euch jett. Der Konig in Spa-20 nien, ber die Probinzen durch gut Gluck zusammen bestigt, darf doch nicht drin schalten und walten anders als die kleinen Tursten, die sie ehemals einzeln besassen. Begreift Ihr das?

Setter. Erflart's ung!

25 Nansen. Es ist so flar als die Sonne Mußt Ihr nicht nach Euern Landrechten gerichtet werden? Woher kanne bag?

Ein Burger. Wahrlich!

Vansen. Hat der Bruffeler nicht ein ander Recht als 30 der Antwerper, der Antwerper als der Genter? Woher kame denn das?

Unberer Burger. Bei Gott!

Vanfen. Aber, wenn Ihr's fo fortlaufen laßt, wird man's Euch bald anders weisen. Pfut! Was Karl der Kühne, Friedrich der Krieger, Karl der Tunfte nicht konnten, das thut nun Philipp durch ein Weib.

Soest. Ia, ja! bie alten Fursten haben's auch schon 5 probirt.

Banfen. Freilich! — Unsere Borfahren pasten auf Wie sie einem Gerrn gram wurden, fingen sie ihm etwa seinen Sohn und Erben weg, hielten ihn bei sich, und gaben ihn nur auf die besten Bedingungen heraus. Unsere Bater 10 waren Leute! Die wußten, was ihnen nut war! Die wußten etwas zu fassen und festzuseten. Nechte Wanner! Dasufter sind aber auch unsere Brivilegien so deutlich, unsere Freiheiten so versichert.

Seifen sieder Was sprecht Ihr von Treiheiten? 15 Das Bolk Bon unsern Freiheiten, von unsern Pri= vilegien! Eizahlt noch was von unsern Privilegien!

Vansen. Wir Brabanter besonders, obgleich alle Provinzen ihre Vortheile haben, wir sind am herrlichsten versehen. Ich habe Alles gelesen.

Soeft. Sagt an!

Jetter. Lafit horen!

Cin Burger. Ich bitt' Guch.

Banfen. Eiftlich fteht geschrieben. Der Berzog bon Biabant foll und ein guter und getreuer Berr fein. 25

Soeft. Gut! Steht bas fo?

Jetter. Getreu? Ist das mahr?

Vanfen. Wie ich Cuch sage. Er ift uns verpflichtet, wie wir ihm. Zweitens Er soll keine Macht ober eignen Willen an uns beweisen, merken lassen, ober gebenken zu 30 gestatten, auf keinerlei Weise.

Jetter. Schon! Schon! nicht beweisen.

Soeft Nicht merten laffen.

Ein Anderer. Und nicht gebenken zu gestatten! Das ist ber Hauptpunkt. Niemandem gestatten, auf keinerler Weise.

5 Banfen. Mit ausdrucklichen Worten.

Jetter. Schafft uns das Buch!

Ein Buiger. Ia, wir muffen's haben.

Anbere. Das Buch, bas Buch!

Cin Anderer. Wir wollen zu ber Regentin gehen 10 unt dem Buche.

Cin Underer. Ihr sollt das Wort fuhren, Geri Dokton.

Seifensteber. D, die Tiopfe!

Andere. Noch etwas aus bem Buche!

5 Serfenfreder. Ich schlage ihm die Zahne in den Hals, wenn er noch ein Wort sagt. Das Volt Wir wollen sehen, wer ihm etwas thut.

Das Wolf Wir wollen sehen, wer ihm etwas thut. Sagt uns was von den Privilegien! Haben wir noch mehr Privilegien?

20 Nanfen. Mancherler, und fehr gute, fehr heilfame. Da fteht auch Der Landsherr foll den geiftlichen Stand nicht verbessern oder niehren, ohne Verwilligung des Abels und der Stande! Merkt das! Auch den Staat des Landes nicht verandern

25 Soest. Ist bas so?

Banfen. Ich will's Cuch gefchrieben zeigen, von zwer, breibundert Sabien bei.

Burger. Und wir leiden die neuen Bischofe? Der Abel muß uns schugen, wir fangen Sandel an!

30 Andere. Und wir laffen uns von der Inquisition ins Bockshorn jagen? without Can-2

Banfen. Das ift Cute Schuld.

Das Bolk. Wir haben noch Egmont, noch Oranien! Die forgen fur unfer Bestes

Vanfen. Cure Bruder in Flandern haben bas gute Werf angefangen.

Seifensieber. Du Hund!

5

10

(Er schlagt ihn)

Anbere (wideisehen sich und rufen) Bist Du auch ein Spanier?

Cin Anderer. Was? Den Chienmann? Cin Anderer. Den Gelahiten?

(Sie fallen ben Seifenfieber an)

Zimmermeister. Um's himmels willen, ruht! (Anbeie muschen sich in ben Stiett) Burger, was foll bas?

Andere. Treiheit und Privilegien! Privilegien und Freiheit!

Cgmont tritt auf mit Begleitung

Egmont. Ruhig, Ruhig, Leute! Was giebt's? Ruhe! 20 Bringt sie aus einander!

Fimmermeister. Gnabiger Gert, Ihr kommt wie ein Engel des himmels Stille' feht Ihr nichts? Graf Comont! Dem Grafen Comont Reverenz.

Egmont. Auch hier? Was fangt Ihr an? Burger 25 gegen Burger! Halt sogar bie Nahe unsrer koniglichen Regentin biesen Unfinn nicht zuruck? Geht auseinander, geht an Euer Gewerbe. Es ist ein ubles Zeichen, wenn Ihr an Werktagen feiert Was war's?

(Der Tunnelt fiellt fich nach und nach, und Alle stehen um ihn herum) 30

遇,

Zimmermeister. Sie schlagen sich um ihre Privilegien.

Egmont. Die ste noch muthwillig zertrummern werden!

— Und wer seid iht? Ihr scheint mir rechtliche Leute.

3 ummermeister. Das ift unser Bestreben.

Egmont. Emes Beichens? . "

Bimmermeifter. Zimmermann und Bunftmeifter.

Egmont. Und Ihr?

Soeft. Kramer.

10 Egmont. Ihr?

Jetter. Schneiber.

Egmont. Ich erunnere mich, ihr habt mit an ben Livreen fur meine Leute gearbeitet. Euer Name ift Jetter.

Jetter. Gnabe, daß Ihr Euch bessen erinnert.

15 Eg mont. Ich vergesse Niemanden leicht, den ich einmal gesehen und gesprochen habe. — Was an Euch ift, Ruhe zu erhalten, Leute, das thut! Ihr seid übel genug angeschrieben. Reizt den Konig nicht mehr! Er hat zuletzt doch die Gewalt in Handen. Ein dientlicher Burger, der sich ehrlich und 20 steissig nahrt, hat uberall so viel Freiheit, als er braucht.

Bimmermeister. Ach wohl! Das ist eben unser Noth! Die Tagdiebe, die Sosser, die Faulenzer, mit Euer Gnaden Verlaub, die stankein aus Langerweile, und schaffen und Hibliegien, und lugen den Neugieigen und Leichtglaubigen was vor, und um eine Kanne Bier bezahlt zu kiegen, fangen sie Handel an, die viel tausend Menschen unglucklich machen. Das ist ihnen eben recht. Wir halten unfre Haufer und Kaften zu gut verwahrt, da mochten ste gern uns mit Teuerbianden davon treiben.

30 Egmont. Allen Beistand sollt Ihr sinden; es sind Maßiegeln genommen dem Uebel kraftig zu begegnen. Steht fest gegen die siemde Lehre, und glaubt nicht duich Ausruhr

befestige man Privilegien! Bleibt zu Hause! Leibet nicht, baß sie sich auf den Straßen rotten! Vernunftige Leute konnen viel thun.

(Indessen hat sich ber größte Haufe verlaufen)

Zimmermerster. Danken Guer Ercellenz, banken fur 5 bie gute Meinung! Alles was an uns liegt. (Egmont ab) Ein gnabiger Herr! ber echte Nieberlander! Gar so nichts. Spanisches.

Fetter. Hatten wir ihn nur zum Regenten! Man folgt ihm gerne.

Soeft. Das läßt ber König wohl fein. Den Plat besetzt er immer mit den Seinigen.

Jetter. Haft bu das Kleid gefehen? Das war nach ber neuften Art, nach spanischem Schnitt.

Zimmermeister. Ein schoner Heri!

3 etter. Sem Hals war' ein rechtes Fiessen für einen Schaifrichter.

Soest. Bist Du toll? Was kommt Dir ein!

Setter. Dumm genug, daß Einem so was einfallt. — Es

ist mir num so. Wenn ich einen schonen langen Hals sehe, 20
muß ich gleich wider Willen benken. der ist gut kopfen. —

Die verstuchten Erekutionen! man kriegt sie nicht aus dem
Sinne Wenn die Buische schwimmen, und ich seh' einen
nackten Buckel, gleich sallen sie mit zu Dugenden ein, die ich
habe mit Nuthen streichen sehen. Begegnet mir ein rechter 25

Wanst, mein' ich, den seh' ich schon am Psahl kraken. Des
Nachts im Tiaume zwickt mich's an allen Gliebein, man
wird eben keine Stunde froh. Jede Luskbarkeit, zeden Spaß
hab' ich bald vergessen, die suichterlichen Gestalten sind mir
wie vor die Stune gebrannt.

Egmonts Wohnung.

Sekretär an einem Tisch mit Papieren; er steht innuhig auf Sekretär. Er kommt immer nicht! Und ich warte schon zwei Stunden, die Feder in der Hand, die Papiere vor mit, und eben heute mocht' ich gein so zeitig koit. Es biennt mit unter den Sohlen Ich kann vor Ungeduld kaum bleiben "Sei auf die Stunde da," befahl er mit noch, ehe er wegging, nun kommt ei nicht Es ist so viel zu thun, ich werde vor Mitternacht nicht feitig Tiellich sieht oei Einem auch einmal duich die Finger. Doch hielt ich's besser, wenn er strenge ware, und ließe Einen auch wieder zur bestimmten Zeit. Man konnte sich einzichten. Von der Regentin ist er nun schon zwei Stunden weg, wer weiß, wen er unterwegs angesaßt hat.

Egmont tritt auf

Egmont. Wie fieht's aus?

Sefretar. Ich bin bereit, und biei Boten warten

Egmont. Ich bin Dir wohl zu lang geblieben, Du machst ein verdrießlich Gesicht.

20 Se ki et ar. Eurem Befehl zu gehorchen, wart' ich schon lange Her sind die Papiere!

Cgmont. Donna Cloua wud bose auf mich werben, wenn sie bort, daß ich Dich abgehalten habe.

Sefretar. Ihr Scheigt.

5 Cgmont. Nein, nein Schame bich nicht. Du zeigst einen guten Geschniack. Sie ist hubsch, und es ist mit ganz recht, daß Dit auf dem Schlosse eine Freundin haft. Was sagen die Briefe?

Sefretar. Mancherlei, und wenig Cifieuliches.

30 Egmont. Da ift gut, daß wir die Treude zu Sause haben

25

und sie nicht auswarts her zu erwarten brauchen. Ist viel gekommen?

Sefretar. Genug, und diet Boten warten.

Egmont. Sag an' Das Nothigste!

Sefretar Es ist Alles nothig.

Egmont. Eins nach bem Andern, nur geschwind!

Sekretar. Hauptmann Breda schrickt die Relation, was weiter in Gent und der umliegenden Gegend vorgefallen. Der Tumult hat sich merstens gelegt. —

Egmont. Ei schreibt wohl noch von einzelnen Unge= 10 zogenheiten und Tollfuhnheiten?

Sefretar. Ja! Es fommt noch Manches vor.

Egmont. Berschone mich bamit.

Se kretar. Noch sechs sind eingezogen worden, die bei Werwich das Marienbild umgerissen haben. Er fragt an, ob 15 er sie auch wie die Andern soll hangen lassen?

Egmont. Ich bin des Hangens mude. Man soll sie duichpeitschen, und sie mogen gehn.

Sefretar. Es sind zwei Weiber dabei, soll er die auch durchpeitschen?

Egmont. Die mag er beiwarnen und laufen laffen.

Sefretar. Einer von den fremden Lehrern ist heimlich durch Comunes gegangen und entdeckt worden Er schwort, er sei im Begriff nach Frankreich zu gehen. Nach dem Besehl soll er enthauptet werden

Egmont. Sie sollen ihn in der Stille an die Grenze bringen, und ihm versichern, daß er das zweitemal nicht so wegkommt.

Sekretar. Ein Lief von Eurem Einnehmer. Er schreibt, es komme wenig Geld ein, er konne auf die Woche 30 die verlangte Summe schwerlich schiefen, der Lumult habe in alles die großte Konfusion gebiacht.

Egmont. Das Geld muß herbei! Er mag sehen, wie er es zusammenbringt.

Sekretar. Er sagt, er werbe sein Woglichstes thun, und wolle endlich ben Rahmond, ber Euch so lange schuldig ist, 5 verklagen und in Verhaft nehmen lassen.

Egmont. Der hat ja versprochen zu bezahlen.

Sekretar. Das legtemal sette er sich selbst vierzehn Tage.

Egmont. So gebe man ihm noch vierzehn Tage, und ro dann mag er gegen ihn verfahren.

Sekretar. Ihr thut wohl. Es ist nicht Unvermögen, es ist boser Wille. Er macht gewiß Ernst, wenn er steht, Ihr spaßt nicht. — Feiner sagt der Einnehmer, er wolle den alten Soldaten, den Wittwen und einigen Andern, denen 15 Ihr Gnadengehalte gebt, die Gebuhr einen halben Monat zuruchhalten, man konne indessen Nath schaffen, sie mochten sich einrichten.

Egmont. Was ist da einzurichten? Die Leute brauchen bas Gelb nothiger als ich. Das foll er bleiben laffen!

20 Sefretar. Woher befehlt Ihr denn, daß er das Geld nehmen foll?

Egmont. Darauf mag er benken; es ift ihm im vorigen Briefe schon gesagt.

Sefretar. Deswegen thut er die Vorschlage.

25 Eg mont. Die taugen nicht. Er soll auf was anders sinnen. Er soll Vorschlage thun, die annehmlich sind, und vor Allem soll er das Geld schaffen.

Sekretar. Ich habe den Brief des Grafen Oliva wieder hierher gelegt. Berzeiht, daß ich euch daran erinnere! Der 30 alte herr verdient vor allen Andern eine ausfuhrliche Antwort. Ihr wolltet ihm felbst schieden. Gewiß, er liebt Euch wie ein Bater.

Eg mont. Ich komme nicht bazu. Und unter vielem Verhaßten ist mir bas Schreiben das Verhaßteste. Du machst meine Hand ja so gut nach, schreib in meinem Namen. Ich erwarte Oranien. Ich komme nicht bazu, und wunschte selbst, baß ihm auf seine Bedenklichkeiten was recht Beruhi= 5 gendes geschrieben wurde.

Sekretär. Sagt mir ungefahr Eure Meinung! Ich will die Antwort schon aufsegen und sie Euch vorlegen. Geschrieben soll sie werden, daß sie vor Gericht fur Eure Hand gelten kann.

Egmont. Gieb mir den Brief. (Nachdem er hineingesehen) Guter, ehrlicher Alter! Warst Du in deiner Jugend auch wohl so bedachtig? Erstiegst Du nie einen Wall? Bliebst Du in der Schlacht, wo es die Klugheit anrath, hinten?—
Der treue Sorgliche! Er will mein Leben und mein Glick, 15 und suhlt nicht, daß der schon todt ist, der um seiner Sicherheit willen lebt.— Schreib' ihm, er moge undesorgt sein, ich handle wie ich soll, ich werde nich schon wahren, sein Ansehn bei Hose sollsommenen Dankes gewiß sein.

Sefretar. Nichts weiter? D, er erwartet mehr.

Egmont. Was soll ich mehr sagen? Willst Du mehr Worte machen, so steht's bei Dir. Es breht sich immer um ben Einen Punkt. Ich soll leben, wie ich nicht leben mag. Daß ich frohlich bin, die Sachen leicht nehme, rasch lebe, daß 25 ist mein Gluck, und ich vertausch' es nicht gegen die Sichersheit eines Tobtengewolbes Ich habe nun zu der spanischen Lebensart nicht einen Blutstropfen in meinen Abern, nicht Lust, meine Schitte nach der neuen, bedachtigen Hosseszuch nicht engenwartigen Augenblick nicht genießen, damit ich

bes folgenden gewiß sei, und diesen wieder mit Sorgen und Grillen verzehren?

Se fre tar. Ich bitt' Euch, Seil, seid nicht so harsch und lauch gegen den guten Mann. Ich seid ja sonst gegen 5 Alle steundlich. Sagt mit ein gefallig Wort, das den edeln Treund beruchige! Scht, wie sorgfaltig er ist, wie leis' er Euch berucht.

Egmiont. Und boch beruhrt er immer diese Saite Ci weiß von Alters her, wie verhaßt mir diese Cimahnungen 10 sind, sie machen nur vire, sie helsen nichts. Und wenn ich ein Nachtwandler ware, und auf dem gefahrlichen Sipfel eines Hauses spagierte—ist es freundschaftlich, nuch beim Namen zu rufen und mich zu warnen, zu wecken und zu toden? Last Jeden seines Pfades gehn, er mag sich wahren.

15 Sefretar. Es ziemt Cuch nicht zu forgen, aber wei Cuch fennt und liebt ---

Camont (in ben Bief febend) Da bringt er wieder die alten Marchen auf, mas mir an einem Abend in leichtem Uebermuth ber Geselligkeit und bes Weins getrieben und ge-20 sprochen, und was man daraus fur Folgen und Beweise durchs gange Konigieich gezogen und geschleppt habe - Run gut! Bn haben Schellenkappen, Natienkutten auf unfier Diener Alermel fticken laffen, und haben diese tolle Rierde nachhei in ein Bundel Pfeile verwandelt - ein noch gefahrlicher Symbol 25 fur Alle, die deuten wollen, wo nichts zu deuten ift. Wi haben die und jene Thorheit in einem luftigen Augenblick empfangen und geboren, find schuld, daß eine ganze edle Schaar mit Bettelfacten und mit einem felbstgewahlten Unnamen dem Konige seine Pflicht mit spottender Demuth ins 30 Gedachtniß rief, find schuld — was ist's nun weiter? ein Taftnachtsspiel gleich Sochverrath? Sind uns die kurzen bunten Lumpen zu mifgonnen, die ein jugendlicher Muth, eine

angefrischte Phantaffe um unfers Lebens gritte Bloge hangen mag? Wenn Ibr bas Leben gar zu einfthaft nehmt, was ift benn bign? Wenn uns ber Morgen nicht zu neuen Treuben wedt, am Abend uns feine Luft zu hoffen ubig bleibt, ift's mohl bes Un= und Ausziehens werth? Scheint mit die 5 Sonne beut, um bas zu uberlegen, mas geftern mar, und um zu rathen, zu verbinden, mas nicht zu errathen, nicht zu verbinden uft — bas Schickfal eines kommenden Tages? Schenke mir biefe Betrachtungen! Wir wollen fie Schulezn und Hoflingen uberlassen. Die mogen finnen und aussinnen, mandeln und 10 schleichen, gelangen mobin fie konnen, erschleichen mas fie fonnen. - Rannft bu von allem Diesem etwas brauchen, daß teine Epistel kein Buch wird, jo ist mu's recht. Dem guten Alten scheint Alles viel zu wichtig Go bruckt ein Freund, ber lang unfre Sand gehalten, fie stärker noch emmal, wenn 15 er fie laffen will

Sekrekar Berzeiht mit ! Co wird dem Tußganger samindlig, der einen Mann mit rasselnder Erle daher sahren steht.

Egmont. Kind' Kind' Nicht weiter! Wie von unsicht= 20 baren Geistein gepeitscht, gehen die Sonnenpfeide der Zeit mit unsers Schicksals leichtem Wagen durch, und uns bleibt nichts als, muthig gesaßt, die Zugel festzucialten, und bald rechts bald links, vom Steine hier, vom Stuize da, die Nader wegzulenken. Wohn es geht, wer weiß es? Erinnert er 25 sich doch kaun, wober er kam!

Sefretar. Berr ! Bert!

Egmont. Ich stehe hoch, und kann und muß noch hoher steigen, ich suhle in mir Hoffnung, Muth und Kraft. Noch hab' ich niemes Wachsthums Gipfel nicht erreicht, und steh' 30 ich dioben einst, so will ich sest, nicht angstlich stehn. Soll ich fallen, so mag ein Donnerschlag, ein Sturmwind, za ein selbst

versehlter Schritt mich abwarts in die Tiese stürzen, da lieg' ich mit viel Tausenden. Ich habe nie verschmaht, mit meinen guten Kriegsgesellen um kleinen Gewinnst das blutige Loos zu wersen, und sollt' ich knickein, wenn's um den ganzen freien 5 Werth des Lebens geht?

Sekretär D herr! Ihr wift nicht, was für Worte Ihr sprecht ' Gott eihalt' Cuch!

Cgmont. Ninin Deine Papiere zusammen! Oranien kommit Fertige aus, was am nothigsten ist, daß die Boten io fortkommen, eh' die Thore geschlossen werden. Das Andere hat Zeit. Den Brief an den Grasen laß dis morgen! Verssame nicht Elviren zu besuchen, und gruße sie von mir. — Horche, wie sich die Regentin besindet! Sie soll nicht wohl sein, ob sie's gleich verbirgt.

(Sekretar ab)

Dianien fommt

Egmont. Willfommen, Dranien. Ihr scheint mit nicht gang fiet

Oranien Was sagt Ihr zu unsier Unterhaltung mit 20 der Regentin?

Egmont Ich fand in ihrer Art uns aufzunehmen nichts Außerordentliches. Ich habe sie schon ofter so gesehen. Sie schien mit nicht ganz wohl.

Dranzen Merktet Ihr nicht, daß sie zuruckhaltender 25 war? Erst wollte sie unser Betragen ber dem neuen Aufzruhr des Pobels gelassen billigen, nachher nierkte sie an, was sich doch auch fur ein falsches Licht darauf wersen lasse, wich dann mit dem Gesprache zu ihrem alten gewohnlichen Disturs daß man ihre liebevolle gute Art, ihre Freundschaft zu uns Riederlandern nie genug erkannt, zu leicht behandelt habe, daß nichts einen erwunschten Ausgang nehmen wolle,

daß ste am Ende wohl mube werden, der Konig sich zu andern Maßregeln entschließen musse. Habt Ihr das gehort?

Egmont. Nicht Alles, ich bachte unterdessen an was Anders. Sie ist ein Weih, guter Oranien, und die niochten immer gern, daß sich Alles unter ihr sanstes Joch gelassen sichmiegte, daß sich Alles unter ihr sanstes Joch gelassen sichmiegte, daß seber Gercules die Lowenhaut ablegte und ihren Kunkelhof vermehrte, daß, weil sie friedlich gesinnt sind, die Gahrung, die ein Wolk ergreist, der Sturm, den machtige Nebenbuhler gegen einander erregen, sich durch Ein freundlich Wort beilegen ließe, und die widrigsten Clemente sich zu ihren 10 Küßen in sanster Eintracht vereinigten. Das ist ihr Kall, und da sie es dahm nicht bringen kann, so hat sie keinen Weg als launisch zu werden, sich über Undankbarkeit, Umweißeheit zu beklagen, mit schrecklichen Aussischten in die Zukunft zu drohen, und zu drohen, daß sie — fortgehen will

Oranien. Glaubt Ihr basmal nicht, daß sie ihre Drohung erfullt?

Egmont. Nunmermeht! Wie oft habe ich fie schon reiseseitig gesehn! Wo will sie benn hin? Hier Statthalterin, Konigin, glaubst Du, daß sie es unterhalten wird, am Hose 20 ihres Bruders unbedeutende Tage abzuhaspeln, oder nach to Italien zu gehen und sich in alten Familienverhaltnissen herumzuschleppen?

Dranten. Man halt sie bieser Entschließung nicht fahig, weil Ihr sie habt zaubein, weil Ihr sie habt zuruck= 25 treten sehn, bennoch liegt's wohl in ihr, neue Umstande treiben sie zu dem lang verzogerten Entschliß. Wenn sie ginge, und der Konig schickte einen Andern?

Eg mont. Nun, ber wurde kommen, und wurde eben auch zu thun finden. Mit großen Planen, Projekten und 30 Gebanken wurde er kommen, wie er Alles zurecht rucken, unterweisen und zusammenhalten wolle, und wurde heut mit dieser Kleinigkeit, morgen mit einer andern zu thun haben, übermorgen jene Hinderinß finden, einen Monat mit Entwursen, einen andern mit Verdruß über sehlgeschlagne Unternehmen, ein halb Inhr in Sorgen über eine einzige Wroding zubringen. Auch ihm wird die Zeit vergehen, der Kopf schwindeln, und die Dinge wie zuvor ihren Gang halten, daß er, statt weite Meere nach einer vorgezogenen Time zu duchsegeln, Gott danken mag, wenn er sein Schiff in diesem Sturme vom Felsen halt.

10 Oranten. Wenn man nun aber bem Konig zu einem Bersuch riethe?

Egmont. Der ware?

Dianien. Zu sehen, was ber Rumpf ohne Saupt anfinge

15 Cgmont. Wie?

Dianien. Egmont, ich trage viele Jahre her alle unsie Beihaltnisse am Seizen, ich stehe immer wie über einem Schachspiele und halte keinen Zug des Gegners für undes deutend, und wie mußige Wenschen mit der größten Soigsalt 20 sich um die Geheimnisse Wenschen mit der größten Soigsalt ich um die Geheimnisse den Natur bekummern, so halt ich es sin Psticht, sur Beruf eines Tursten, die Gestinnungen, die Nathschlage aller Parteien zu keinen Ich habe Ursach, einen Ausbruch zu befurchten. Der Konig hat lange nach gewissen Grundsahen gehandelt, er sieht, daß er dannt nicht 25 auskommt, was ist wahrscheinlicher, als daß er es auf einem andern Wege versucht?

Egmont. Ich glaub's nicht. Wenn man alt wird und hat so viel versucht, und es will in der Welt nie zur Didnung kommen, niuß man es endlich wohl genug haben.

30 Dranien. Eins hat er noch nicht bersucht.

Camont. Run?

τo

15

Oranien. Das Bolf zu schonen und bie Fursien zu verberben.

Egmont. Wie Viele haben bas schon lange gefürchtet! Es ist keine Sorge.

Oranien. Sonst war's Sorge, nach und nach ist mir's 5 Vermuthung, zuletzt Gewisheit geworden.

Egmont. Und hat der Konig treuere Diener als und? Dranten. Wir dienen ihm auf unsre Art, und unter einander konnen wir gestehen, daß wir des Konigs Rechte und die unfrigen wohl abzuwägen wissen.

Egmont. Wer thut's nicht? Wir sind ihm unterthan und gewärtig, in dem was ihm zukommt.

Oranien. Wenn er sich nun aber mehr zuschriebe, und Treulosigkeit nennte, was wir heißen, auf unfre Rechte halten?

Egmont. Wir werben uns vertheibigen konnen. Er ruse die Ritter bes Bließes zusammen. Wir wollen uns richten lassen.

Oranien. Und was ware ein Urtheil vor ber Unter- suchung, eine Strafe vor bem Urtheil?

Egmont. Eine Ungerechtigkeit, ber sich Philipp nie schuldig machen wird, und eine Thorheit, die ich ihm und seinen Nathen nicht zutraue.

Oranien. Und wenn sie nun ungerecht und thöricht waren?

Eg mont. Nein, Oranien, es ist nicht nöglich. Wer sollte wagen Hand an uns zu legen? — Uns gefangen zu nehmen war' ein verlornes und fluchtloses Unternehmen. Nein, sie wagen nicht, das Panier der Thrannei so hoch auf=zustecken. Der Windhauch, der diese Nachricht übers Land zo brachte, würde ein ungeheures Veuer zusammentreiben. Und wohinaus wollten sie? Richten und verdammen kann nicht

h ,

ber König allein, und wollten sie meuchelmorbeilich an unser Leben? — Sie konnen nicht wollen. Ein schrecklicher Bund wurde in einem Augenblick das Wolk vereinigen. Haß und ewige Tiennung vom Spanischen Namen wurde sich gewaltsam 5 eiklaren.

Dranien Die Flamme wuthete dann uber unserm Grabe, und das Blut unster Feinde flosse zum leeren Suhnopfer. Laß uns benten, Egmont

Egmont. Wie follten fte aber?

10 Dranien. Alba ist unterwegs

Egmont. Ich glaub's nicht

Dranien. Ich weiß es.

Egmont Die Regentin wollte nichts wissen

Oranien. Um besto mehr bin ich uberzeugt Die 15 Regentin wird ihm Plat machen. Seinen Wordstinn kenn' ich, und ein Geer bringt er mit.

Egmont. Aufs Neue die Provinzen zu belaftigen? Das Volk wird hochst schwierig werden.

Dranten Man wud sich ber Haupter versichern

20 Egmont. Nein! Nein!

Oranien. Laß uns gehen, Jeber in seine Proving Dort wollen wir uns verstarken, mit offner Gewalt fangt er nicht an

Cgmont. Mussen wir ihn nicht begrußen, wenn ei 25 kommt?

Dranten. Wir zögern.

Egmont. Und wenn er uns im Namen bes Konigs bei seiner Ankunft fordert?

Dranien. Suchen wir Ausfluchte.

30 Cgmont. Und wenn er bringt?

Dranien Entschuldigen wir uns.

Camont. Und wenn er biauf befleht?

Dranien. Kommen wir um fo weniger.

Egmont. Und der Krieg ist erklatt, und wir sind die Rebellen. Oranien, laß Dich nicht durch Klugheit versuhren! Ich weiß, daß Turcht Dich nicht weichen macht. Bebenke den Schritt.

Dranten. Ich hab' ihn bedacht.

Bebenke, wenn Du Dich irift, woran Du Eamont. schuld bist an bem verderblichsten Kriege, der je ein Land verwustet hat. Dein Weigern ist bas Signal, bas bie Provingen mit einem Male zu den Waffen ruft, das jede Grau= 10 samfeit rechtfertigt, wozu Spanien von jeber nur gern ben Vorwand gehascht hat. Was wir lange niuhselig gestillt haben, wirst Du mit Einem Winke zur schrecklichsten Verwirrung Dent' an die Stadte, die Ebeln, bas Bolf, an Die Sandlung, den Feldbau, die Gewerbe! Und denke die Bermu= 15 ftung, den Mord! - Ruhig steht der Soldat wohl im Telde feinen Kameraden neben sich hinfallen, aber den Tluß herunter weiden Dir die Leichen der Buiger, der Kinder, der Junafrauen entgegenschwimmen, daß Du mit Entsetzen bastelift, und nicht mehr weißt wessen Sache Du vertheidigst, ba bie zu Grunde 20 gehen, fur beren Freiheit Du die Waffen ergreifst Und wie wird Dir's fein, wenn Du Dir ftill fagen mußt. Fur meine Sicherheit ergriff ich fte !

Oranien Wii sind nicht einzelne Menschen, Egmont. Ziemt es sich, uns fur Tausende hunzugeben, so ziemt es sich) 25 auch, uns fur Tausende zu schonen.

Egmont. Wer sich schont, muß sich selbst verbachtig

Oran en. Wei sich kennt, kann sicher vor= und inck= waits gehen

Egmont. Das Uebel, das Du furchtest, wird gewiß burch Deine That.

find.

Oranien. Es ist klug und kuhn, bem unvermeidlichen Uebel entgegenzugehn.

Egmont. Bei so großer Gefahr kommt die leichteste Hoffnung in Anschlag.

Oranien. Wir haben nicht fur den leisesten Fußtritt Plag niehr, der Abgrund liegt hart vor uns.

Egmont. Ift bes Konigs Gunst ein so schmaler Grund?

Dranien So fchmal nicht, aber schlupfrig.

ee Egmont. Bei Gott, man thut ihm Unrecht. Ich mag nicht leiden, daß man unwurdig von ihm denkt. Er ist Karls Sohn und keiner Riedrigkeit fahig.

Dranten. Die Konige thun nichts Niebriges.

Egmont. Man follte ihn fennen lernen.

15 Oranien. Eben biese Kenntniß rath uns, eine gesahr= liche Probe nicht abzuwarten.

Egmont. Keine Probe ist gefahrlich, zu ber man Muth hat.

Dranien. Du wirst aufgebracht, Egmont.

20 Egmont. Ich muß mit meinen Augen fehen.

Dranten Dfah'st Du biesmal nur mit den meinigen! Freund, weil Du ste offen haft, glaubst Du, Du siehst Ich gehe! Warte Du Alba's Ankunft ab, und Gott sei der Dir! Vielleicht rettet Dich mein Weigern. Vielleicht, daß der Drache 25 nichts zu fangen glaubt, wenn er uns nicht Beide auf einmal verschlingt. Vielleicht zögeit er, um seinen Anschlag sicherer auszusuhren, und vielleicht siehest Du indeß die Sache in ihrer wahren Gestalt. Aber dann schnell, schnell! Rette, rette Dich!

—Leb' wohl!—Laß Deiner Ausmerksamseit nichts entgehen 30—wie viel Mannschaft er mitbringt, wie er die Stadt besetzt, was fur Macht die Regentin behalt, wie Deine Freunde gesaßt

Gieb mir Nachricht - - - Egmont -

Egmont Was willst Du?

Oranien (ihn bei ber Hand faffenb) Laß Dich uberreben! Geh mit!

Egmont Wie? Thianen, Oranien?

Oranien Einen Berlornen zu beweinen, ift auch 5 mannlich.

Cgmont. Du wahnst mich verloren?

Dranzen. Du bist's Bebenke! Dir bleibt nut eine kurze Frift. Leb' wohl! (Ab)



ARGUMENT.

ACT III

THE third act begins with a short soliloguy by Maigaiet of Paima, who complains that her brother, King Philip II, does not fully appreciate the well-meant services which she has rendered to the State When Machiavell appears in the background, the Regent bids him approach and communicates to him the contents of the letter which her royal brother has addressed to her on the affairs of the State. That letter is couched in polite terms, breathing his fullest satisfaction at the measures taken to pacify the malcontents of the Netherlands-but the drift of it is, that without an army, the Regent will always cut a poor figure in the country, and, for this reason, he sends the Duke of Alva with a power-Machiavell intimates that the Regent will have an experienced warrior in her service, but she foresees that Alva is sent to replace her She sketches in vivid colours the Members of the State Council, who have advised the king to take this extreme step, and she describes the manner in which Alva will probably carry out his mission, and thus frustrate her most cherished endeavours to effect a reconciliation Machiavell avows that he is unable to contradict her forebodings, and the Regent resolves to lay down the sceptre of her own free will rather than be dislodged by the Duke

The next scene passes in Clarchen's dwelling Her mother reproves her again for her romantic attachment to Egmont, but she ominously declares that her life is indissolubly bound up with his Egmont appears, dressed in a trooper's cloak, his hat drawn over his face. The mother retries to prepare the evening repast for the noble guest,

and Egmont throws off his cloak and appears in a splendid dress. He had promised to show himself one day to Clarchen 'dressed as a Spaniard,' and has now done so to gratify her childish wish.

Clarchen admires the dazzling dress, and above all the Order of the Golden Fleece which, Egmont tells her, confers upon him the noblest privileges He 'need recognise on earth no judge over his actions except the Grand Master of his order, with the assembled chapter of knights'

Then conversation then turns upon the Regent and William of Orange, whose characters Egmont delineates with a few happy traits, and finally he gives a description of himself—of the double part he is playing in the world—as a public character and a private individual

- wasteren

Dritter Aufzug.

Palaft ber Regentin.

Margarete von Parma:

Ich hatte nur's vermuthen sollen. Sa! Wenn man in 5 Muhe und Arbeit vor sich hinlebt, benkt man immer, man thue das Moglichste, und der von weitem zusieht und be= siehlt, glaubt, er verlange nur das Mogliche — O die Konige! — Ich hatte nicht geglaubt, daß es mich so verdrießen konnte Es ist so schon, zu herrschen! — Und abzudanken? 10 — Ich weiß nicht, wie mein Vater es konnte, aber ich will es auch.

Machtavell erscheint im Grunde

Regentin. Tretet naher, Machiavell Ich benke hier über ben Brief meines Bruders.

Machtabell. Ich barf wissen, was er enthält?
Regentin. So viel zartliche Aufmerksamkeit für mich als Sorgkalt für seine Staaten. Er rühmt die Standhaftigskeit, den Fleiß und die Treue, womit ich disher für die Rechte seiner Majestat in diesen Landen gewacht habe Er 20 bedauert mich, daß mir das unbandige Volk so viel zu schassen mache. Er ist von der Tiese meiner Einsichten so volkommen überzeugt, mit der Klugheit meines Betragens

so außerorbentlich zufrieden, daß ich fast sagen muß, der Brief ist fur einen Konig zu schon geschrieben, für einen Bruder gewiß.

Machtavell. Es ift nicht bas erfte Mal daß er Euch seine gerechte Zufriedenheit bezeigt.

Regentin Aber bas erfte Mal, bag es rednerische Figur ift.

Machtabell. Ich beifteh' Euch nicht.

Regentin Ihr werbet.—Denn er meint nach biesem Eingange ohne Mannschaft, ohne eine kleine Armee werbe 10 ich immer hier eine uble Figur spielen. Wir hatten, sagt er, unrecht gethan, auf die Klagen der Einwohner unstre Soldaten aus den Prodinzen zu ziehen. Eine Besatung, meint er, die dem Burger auf dem Nacken lastet, verbiete ihm durch ihre Schwere, gloße Timiz zu michen.

Machtavell. Es wurde die Gemuther außerft auf= bringen.

Regentin. Der Konig meint aber—horst Du?—er meint, daß ein tuchtiger General, so einer, der gar keine Raison annimmt, gar bald mit Bolk und Abel, Burgern und ZoBauern kertig nerbin konne,— und schiekt deswegen mit einem platen Gier — ein Herzog von Alba.

Machiavell. Alba?

Regentin. Du wunderst Dich?

Machiavell. Ihr sagt: er schiekt. Er fragt wohl, 25' ob er schieken soll?

Regentin. Der König fragt nicht; er schickt

Machtabell. So werdet Ihr einen erfahrnen Krieger in Euren Diensten haben.

Regentin. In meinen Diensten? Rebe gerab' heraus, 30

Machtavell. Ich möcht' Euch nicht vorgreifen.

Regentin Und ich mochte mich verstellen. Es ist mir empfindlich, sehr empfindlich. Ich wollte lieber, mein Bruder sagte, wie er's denkt, als daß er formliche Episteln untersichreibt, die ein Staatssekietar ausset.

5 Machrabell. Sollte man nicht einsehen - ?

Hegentin. Und ich kenne sie inwendig und auswendig. Sie mochten's gein gesaubert und gekehrt haben, und weil sie selbst nicht zugreifen, so findet ein Jeder Beitrauen, der mit dem Besen in der Hand kommt D, mir ist's, als wenn to ich ben Konig und sein Conseil auf dieser Tapete gewirft sabe.

Machtavell So lebhaft 2

Regentin. Es fehlt kein Zig Es sind gute Menschen drunter Der ehrliche Rodich, der so ersahren und maßig ist, nicht zu hoch will, und doch nichts sallen laßt, der gerade 15 Alonzo, der sleißige Freneda, der feste Las Bargas, und noch Cinige, die mitgehen, wenn die gute Bartei machtig wird. Da sitzt aber der hohlaugige Toledaner mit der ehernen Stirne und den tiesen Veuerblick, murmelt zwischen den Zahnen von Weibergute, unzeitigem Nachgeben, und daß Frauen wohl von Zingerittenen Pserden sich tragen lassen, selbst aber schlechte Stallmeister sind, und solche Spaße, die ich ehnials von den politischen Herren habe mit durchhoren mussen.

Machtabell. The habt zu dem Gemalde einen guten Karbentopf gewahlt

Regentin. Gesteht nur, Machavell. In meiner ganzen Schattiung, aus der ich allenfalls malen konnte, ist kein Ton so gelbbraun, gällenschwarz, wie Alba's Gesichtsfarbe, und als die Farbe, aus der er malt. Teder ist bei ihm gleich ein Gotteslasterer, ein Majestatsschander, denn aus diesem Kapitel 30 kann man sie alle sogleich radern, pfahlen, viertheilen und verbrennen. — Das Gute, was ich hier gethan habe, sieht gewiß in der Ferne wie nichts aus, eben weil's gut ist. —

Ta hangt er sich an jeden Muthwillen, der vorbei ist, erinnert an jede Unruhe, die gestillt ist, und es wird dem Konige vor den Augen so voll Meuterei, Ausruhr und Tollstuhrheit, daß er sich vorstellt, sie staßen sich hier einander aus, wenn eine suchtig vorübergebende Ungezogenheit eines 5 10hen Volks bei uns lange vergessen ist. Da faßt er einen recht heizlichen Haß auf die armen Leute, sie kommen ihm abscheulich, sa, wie Thiere und Ungeheuer vor, er sieht sich nach Teuer und Schwert um und wahnt, so bändige man Menschen.

Macbiabell. Ihr scheint mir zu heftig, Ihr nehmt die Sache zu hoch. Bleibt Ihr nicht Regentin?

Regentin. Das kenn'ich. Er nird eine Instruction bringen.— Ich bin in Staatsgeschaften alt genug geworden, inn zu wissen, wie man Einen verdrangt, ohne ihm seine Be- 15 stallung zu nehmen — Erst wird er eine Instruction bringen, die wird unbestimmt und schies sein er wird um sich greisen, denn er hat die Gewalt, und wenn ich nich beklage, wird er eine geheime Instruction vorschüben, wenn ich sie sehen will, wird er mich herumziehen, wenn ich drauf bestehe, wird er mir 20 ein Bapier zeigen, das ganz was anders enthalt, und wenn ich nich da nicht beruhige, gar nicht mehr thun als wenn ich redete. — Indeß wird er, was ich sunchte, gethan, und was ich wünsche, weit abwärts gelenkt haben.

Machiavell. Ich wollt', ich konnt' Guch wider= 25 sprecken

Regentin. Was ich mit unfaglicher Gebuld bezuhigte, wird er durch Hatte und Grausamkeit wieder aufheigen, ich werde vor meinen Augen mein Werk verloren sehen, und uberdies noch seine Schuld zu tragen haben.

Machiavell. Ciwarten's Cure Hoheit! Regentin. So viel Gewalt hab' ich über mich, um ftille zu sein Laß ihn kommen! Ich werbe ihm mit ber besten Art Plat machen, eh' er mich verbrangt

Machiavell. So rasch biesen wichtigen Schritt?

Megentin. Schwerer als Du benkst Wer zu herrschen 5 gewohnt ist, wer's hergebracht hat, daß zeben Tag das Schrickal von Tausenden in seiner Hand liegt, steigt vom Throne wie ins Grab. Aber besser so, als einem Gespenste gleich unter-ben Lebenden bleiben, und mit hohlem Ansehn einen Platz behaupten wollen, den ihm ein Anderer abgeerbt hat und 100 nun bestitt und genießt.

Marchens Wohnung.

Rlaiden Mutter.

Mutter. So eine Liebe wie Brackenburgs hab' ich nie gesehen, ich glaubte, sie sei nur in Helbengeschichten. 330 111. 15 Klarchen (geht in der Stube auf und ab, ein Lied zwischen den Lippen summend)

> Glucklich allein Ift die Seele, die liebt.

Mutter. Er vermuthet Deinen Umgang mit Egmont; 20 und ich glaube, wenn Du ihm ein wenig freundlich thatest, wenn Du wolltest, er heirathete Dich noch.

Rlarch en (fingt) .

Frendvoll Und leidvoll, Gedankenvoll sein, Langen Long Und bangen In schwebenber Bein,

25

5°

30

Simmelhoch jauchzend, Zum Tobe betrubt, Glucklich allein Ift die Seele, die liebt.

Mutter. Lag bas Seiopopeio.

Klarchen Scheltet mur's nicht! Es ist ein kaftig Lieb Hab' ich boch schon manchmal ein großes Kind damit schlasen gewiegt.

Mutter. Du haft boch nichts im Kopfe als Deine Liebe. Bergaßest Du nur nicht Alles über das Eine. Den Bracken- 10 burg solltest Du in Ehren halten, sag' ich Dir. Er kann Dich noch einmal glucklich machen.

Rlarchen. Er?

Mutter. D ja' es kommt eine Zeit! — Ihr Kinder seht nichts voraus, und überhorcht unfre Erfahrungen Die 15 Jugend und die schone Liebe, alles hat sein Ende, und es kommt eine Zeit, wo man Gott dankt, wenn man urgendwo unterkriechen kann.

Klärchen (schaubert, schweigt und sahrt auf): Mutter, laßt bie Zeit kommen wie den Tod. Dran vorzudenken ist schrecks 20 haft! — Und wenn er kommt! Wenn wir müssen — dann wollen wir uns gebeiden wie wir konnen. — Egmont, ich er den entbehren! — (In Thianen) Nein, es ist nicht moglich, nicht moglich.

Eg mont (m einem Reitermantel, ben Hut ins Gesicht gebruckt). 25 Alarchen !

Klarchen (thut einen Schrei, fahrt zurück): Egmont! (Sie eilt auf ihn zu.) Egmont! (Sie umarmt ihn und zuht an ihm.) D Du Guter, Lieber, Sußer! Kommst Du? bist Du ba?

Egmont. Guten Abend, Mutter!

Gott gruf' Euch, ebler Beir! Meine Kleine Mutter ist fast vergangen, daß Ihr so lang' außbleibt, sie hat wieder ben ganzen Tag von Euch geredet und gesungen

Cgmont Ihr gebt mit boch ein Nachteffen?

Mutter Zu viel Gnabe. Wenn wir nur etwas hatten! 5 Klärchen Freilich! Seid nur ruhig, Mutter! Ich habe schon Alles barauf eingerichtet, ich habe etwas zubeieitet Verrathet mich nicht, Mutter.

Mutter Schnial genug.

Rlarchen Wattet nut Und bann bent' ich wenn er bei mir ift, hab' ich gar keinen Hunger, ba follte er auch keinen großen Appetit haben, wenn ich bei ihm bin.

Eamont. Meinft Du?

Rlarch en (stampst mit dem Fuße und kehrt sich unwillig um)

Egmont Wie ift Dir? 15

Rlarchen Wie feid Ihr heute fo kalt! Ihr habt mir noch keinen Kuß angeboten. Warum habt Ihr die Aime in ben Mantel gewickelt wie ein Wochenkind? Ziemt keinem Solbaten noch Liebhaber, die Alime eingewickelt zu haben.

Eamont Bu Beiten, Liebchen, zu Beiten. Wenn ber Soldat auf der Lauer fteht und dem Teinde etwas abliften mochte, da nimmt er fich zusammen, faßt fich felbst in seine Alime und kaut feinen Ansihlag reif Und ein Liebhaber —

Mutter. Wollt Ihr Cuch nicht setzen, es Euch nicht 25 bequem machen? Ich muß in die Ruche, Klaichen bentt an nichts, wenn Ihr da feid. Ihr mußt furlieb nehmen

Egmont. Cuer guter Wille ift bie befte Wurze (Mutter ab)

Rlarden. Und was ware benn me ne Liebe? 30 Camont So viel Du willst

Klarchen. Beigleicht fie, wenn Ihr bas Beig habt

Egmont. Buborberft alfo. (Er wuft ben Mantel ab und fteht in einem prächtigen Rleide ba)

Klarchen. Dze!

Cgmont Nun hab' ich die Arme frei. (Er heizt fie) Klarchen Laßt! Ihr verderbt Cuch (Sie tritt zuruck,) 5 Wie prachtig! Da darf ich Guch nicht anruhren

Cg mont. Bift Du zufrieden? Ich versprach Dir, einmal Spanisch zu kommen

Klaichen. Ich bat Euch zeither nicht mehr drum, ich bachte, Ihr wolltet nicht-Ach, und das goldne Wieß! 10

Cgmont. Da fiehft Du's nun

Klauchen. Das hat Du ber Kauser umgehangt? Cg mont Ja, Kind! Und Kette und Zeichen geben bem, ber sie etragt, die edelsten Treiheiten Ich erkenne auf Eiden

teinen Richter über meine Sandlungen, als den Gröfineister 15 des Ordens mit dem versammelten Kapitel der Ritter

Klarchen O Du durftest die ganze Welt uber Dich richten lassen — Der Sammet ist gar zu herrlich, und die Passement-Arbeit, und das Gestratte! — Man weiß nicht, wo

man anfangen foll.

Camont. Sieh dich nur fatt

Klarchen. Und das goldne Bließ! Ihr erzahltet mit die Geschichte und sagtet es sei ein Zeichen alles Großen und Kostbaren, was man mit Muh' und Fleiß verdient und erwicht Es ist sehr kostbar — Ich fann's Deiner Liebe vergleichen.— 25 Ich trage sie eben so am Heizen — und hernach —

Egmont. Was willst Du fagen?

Rlarchen. Hernach vergleicht sich's auch wieder nicht.

Egmont. Die fo?

Klarchen. Ich habe sie nicht mit Muh' und Fleiß 30 erworben, nicht verdient

Egmont. In bei Liebe ift es anders Du verdienft fle,

à

A Prince

weil Du Dich nicht barum bewirbst — und die Leute erhalten sie auch meist allein, die nicht barnach jagen.

Klarch en. Haft Du das von Dir abgenommen? Haft Du diese ftolze Anmerkung über Dich selbst gemacht? Du, den 5 alles Bolk liebt?

Egmont Satt' ich nur etwas fur sie gethan! Konnt' ich etwas fur sie thun! Es ist ihr guter Wille, nuch zu lieben.

Klarchen. Du warst gewiß heute bei der Regentin? 10 Egmont. Ich war bei ihr.

Klarchen. Bist Du gut mit ihr?

Egmont Es sieht einmal so aus. Wir find einander freundlich und bienftlich

Klarchen. Und im Beigen?

15 Egmont. Will ich ihr wohl. Jebes hat seine eignen Abschien Das thut nichts zur Sache. Sie ist eine treffliche Frau, kennt ihre Leute, und sahe tief genug, wenn sie auch nicht argrochnisch ware. Ich mache ihr viel zu schaffen, weil sie hinter meinem Betragen immer Geheimnisse such, 20 und ich keine habe.

Klarchen. So gar feine?

Egmont. Ei nun, einen kleinen hinterhalt. Jeber Wein seit Weinstein in den Kassein an mit der Zeit. Oranien ist doch noch eine bessere Unterhaltung fur sie und eine immer 25 neue Aufgabe. Er hat sich in den Kredit gesetzt, daß er immer etwas Geheines vorhabe, und nun sieht sie immer nach seiner Stirne, was er wohl denken, auf seine Schritte, wohin er sie wohl richten mochte.

Rlarchen. Verftellt fie fich?

30 Egmont. Regentin, und Du fragft? Klarchen. Verzeiht, ich wollte fragen. Ift fie falfch?

Egmont. Nicht mehr und nicht weniger als Jeber, ber seine Absichten erreichen will.

Klärchen Ich konnte nuch in die Welt nicht finden. Sie hat aber auch einen männlichen Geist, sie ist ein ander Weib als wir Nätherinnen und Köchinnen Sie ist groß, 5 herzhaft, entschossen.

Egmont. Ia, wenn's nicht gar zu bunt geht. Dies= mal ift fie boch ein wenig aus der Fassung.

Klarchen. Wie jo?

Cgmont. Sie hat auch ein Bartchen auf der Ober= 10 lippe, und manchmal einen Anfall von Podagra. Eine zechte Amazone!

Rlarchen. Eine majestatische Frau! Ich scheute mich, vor sie zu treten.

Cgmont. Du bist doch sonst nicht zaghast — Es ware 15 auch nicht Finicht, nur jungfrauliche Scham

Rlarchen (ichlagt die Augen nieder, nummt fine Sand und lehnt fich an ihn)

Eg mont. Ich versiehe Dich, liebes Mabchen! du darsit bie Augen aufschlagen. (Er kußt ihre Augen)

Klärchen. Laß mich schweigen! Laß mich Dich halten! Laß mich Dir in die Augen sehen, Alles drin sinden, Tiost und Hoffnung und Freude und Kummer. (Sie umarmt ihn und sieht ihn an) Sag' mit! Sage! Ich begreise nicht! Bist Du Egmont, der Graf Egmont, der große Egmont, 25 der so viel Aussehm macht, von dem in den Zeitungen steht, an dem die Produzen hängen?

Egmont. Nem, Klarchen, bas bin ich nicht Klarchen. Wie?

Egmont. Siehst du, Alarchen! — Laß mich sitzen! — 30 (Er sett sich, sie kniet vor ihn auf einen Scheinel, legt ihre Aime auf seinen Schooß und sieht ihn an) Iener Egmont ist ein verbrießlicher, steifer, kalter Cymont, der an sich halten, bald dieses bald jenes Gesicht machen muß, geplagt, verkannt, verwickelt ist, wenn ihn die Leute für froh und frohlich halten, geliebt von einem Volke, das nicht weiß was es will, 5 geehrt und in die Hohe getragen von einer Menge, nit der nichts anzusangen ist, umgeben von Freunden, denen er sich nicht überlassen darf, beobachtet von Menschen, die ihm auf alle Weise beitommen mochten, arbeitend und sich benruhend, oft ohne Zweck, meist ohne Lohn — D laß mich schweigen, so wie es dem eigeht, wie es dem zu Muthe ist! Aber dieser, Klarchen, der ist ruhig, offen, gluellich, geliebt und gekannt von dem besten Seizen, das auch ei ganz kennt und mit voller Liebe und Zutiaun an das seine druckt. (Er umaimt sie)

5 Klauchen. So laß mich sterben! Die Welt hat keine Freuden auf biese!

ARGUMENT.

ACT IV

The first scenes of the fourth act are laid in a street at Brussels Jetter and a master carpenter speak of the gloomy state of public affairs. Alva has arrived and has issued the most rigid decrees with reference to the conduct of the citizens. The two speakers are joined by Soest, who brings the news that the Regent, not being able to agree with the Duke of Alva, has secretly and suddenly left the town. The Prince of Orange is also gone, and their only hope is now based on Egmont, who still remains at Brussels. Vansen, the attorney's clerk, enters and endeavours to engage the speakers in a political conversation. First they repulse him, but by degrees he makes them listen to his ominous utterances about the dangers which were hovering over the head of Egmont.

The next scenes pass in the Palace of Culenburg, the temporary residence of the Duke of Alva Silva and Gomez meet one another and the latter gives an account of the execution of the military orders he had received from the Duke, for enabling them to draw, in a moment, a cordon round the Palace Gomez complains of the taciturnity of Alva's surroundings, whom he likens to a 'brazen tower without gates,' but he greatly admires the masterly skill with which he 'silently' led his army from Italy to the Netherlands Ferdinand, the son of Alva, joins Silva and Gomez, and the brief conversation which ensues shows that Egmont and the Prince of Orange are expected at the Palace.

The Duke of Alva enters and tells Gomez, after enquiring whether he had carried out his orders, that Silva will apprise

him of the moment when he is to concentrate the patrols who are to occupy the approaches leading to the Palace Gomez is dismissed by the Duke, and Silva is entrusted by him with the task of arresting Egmont's secretary as soon as the princes have arrived at the Palace Silva intires and the Duke discloses to his son his deep-laid scheme for arresting the two princes on their airival, telling him, at the same time, what part he has assigned to him in the execution of his plans. When his task has been discharged and Silva returns from his 'mission,' Ferdinand is to announce this fact by bringing to his father some scrap of paper.

Silva enters with a letter which a messenger has brought for the Duke from the Prince of Orange. The Prince writes from Antwerp that he will not attend the conference appointed by the Duke. Alva gives vent, in a soliloquy, to his teelings of bitter disappointment at this news, deliberating, at the same time, whether it would be judicious to procrastinate now and to allow Egmont to escape with his friends

Suddenly he becomes attentive to a noise from without He walks to the window and, seeing Egmont dismounting from his horse, he utters ominous words in reference to the Count He will not let the favourable opportunity slip through his fingers, and tells Ferdinand and Silva, who enter hastily, to do as he had bid them

Egmont enters, and a long conversation (which seems to be designedly spun out by the Duke to gain time) ensues on the public state of the country. The Count frankly avows his feelings, which, though breathing loyalty to the King, are bent upon national freedom and independence. His utterances are very little to the taste of the Duke, who nevertheless keeps up the conversation, but betrays his uneasiness by looking round several times. At last his son, Ferdinand, enters bringing a letter to the Duke, who steps aside to read it. Egmont exchanges a few words with Alva's son, who retries into the background on a sign from his father.

The Count steps forward to take his leave, when Alva still detains him, telling him that he has laid bare the deepest secrets of his heart, and thus incautiously implicated himself more gravely than the accusations of his bitterest enemies could do Egmont rejoins that this reproach touches him not He is loval to the King and trusts that the service of their sovereign and the welfare of his country may soon unite him with Alva He expresses his hope that at another conference may be realized, in a more propitious moment, what seems impossible to-day With this he wishes to retire, but Alva, who makes at the same time a sign to Ferdinand, demands the sword of Egmont A door opens and soldiers are seen, standing motionless, in a gallery 'The King commands,' says Alva to Egmont, who is about to draw his sword, as if to defend himself, 'thou art my prisoner' Armed soldiers enter, and Egmont exclaiming in astonishment, 'the King? Orange! Orange!' gives up, after a pause, his sword, which, as he reproachfully remarks, 'had more frequently defended his sovereign's cause, than his own breast.'



Vierter Aufzug

Straffe

Setter Bimmeimeifter

Jetter. He' Pft' He, Nachbar, ein Wort' Zimmermeister Geh' Deines Pfads und sei ruhig!

Jetter. Nur ein Wort. Nichts Neues?

Bimmermerster. Nichts, als daß uns von Neuem zu reben verboten ift.

Jetter. Wie?

10 Bimmermeister. Tietet hier ans Haus an! Gutet Euch! Der Gerzog von Alba hat gleich bei seiner Ankunft einen Besehl ausgehen lassen, dadurch Zwei oder Diei, die auf der Straße zusammen sprechen, des Hochveilaths ohne Unterssuchung schuldig eitlart sind.

15 Jetter. D weh!

Bimmermeifter. Bei ewiger Gefangenschaft ift beis boten, von Staatsfachen zu reben.

Jetter. D unfie Freiheit!

Zimmermeister. Und bei Todesstrafe soll Niemand die 20 Handlungen ber Regierung misstuligen.

Jetter. D unfie Ropfe!

Bimmermeifter. Und mit großem Beisprechen werben Bater, Mutter, Kinder, Berwandte, Tieunde, Diensthoten

eingelaben, mas in bem Innersten bes Saufes vorgeht, bei bem besonbers niebergeseiten Gerichte zu offenbaren.

Jetter. Gehn wir nach Sause!

Zimmermeister. Und den Tolgsauten ist versprochen, daß sie weder an Leibe, noch Chre, noch Bermogen einige 5 Kränkung erdulden sollen.

Jetter. Wie gnadig 'War mir's boch gleich weh, wie ber Herzog in die Stadt kam Seit der Zeit ist mir's, als ware der Himmel mit einem schwarzen Flor übeizogen und hinge so tief herunter, daß man sich bucken musse um nicht 10 bian zu stoßen.

Bimmermeister. Und wie haben Dir seine Solbaten gefallen? Gest! Das ist eine andre Art von Krebsen, als wir sie sonst gewohnt waren

Jetter. Pfin! Es schnürt Einem das Heiz ein, wenn 15 man so einen Hausen die Gassen hinab maischiren sieht Keizengerad, mit unverwandtem Blick, Ein Titt so viel ihrer sind Und wenn sie auf der Schildwache stehen, und Du gehst an Einem vorbei, ist's als wenn er Dich durch und durch sehen wollte, und sieht so steil und murrisch aus, daß Du auf allen, 20 Ecken einen Zuchtmeister zu sehen glaubst. Sie thun mir sar nicht wohl Unsie Miliz war doch noch ein luftig Bolk; sie nahmen sich was heraus, standen mit ausgegrätschen Beinen da, hatten den Hut überm Ohr, lebten und ließen leben, diese Keile aber sind wie Maschinen, in denen ein 25 Teufel sitzt

Bimmeimeister. Wenn so Giner ruft "Salt!" und anschlagt, meinst Du, man hielte?

Setter. Ich wäre gleich bes Todes.

Bimmermeifter. Gehn wir nach Sause!

Jetter Es wird nicht gut Adieu!

Soeft tritt bazu.

Soeft. Freunde ' Genoffen !

Bimmermeifter Still ! Lagt uns gehen.

Soeft. Wift Ihr?

5 Jetter. Mur zu viel!

Soeft. Die Regentin ist weg.

Jetter Run gnab' uns Gott!

Bimmermeifter. Die hielt uns noch

Soest. Auf einmal und in der Stille Sie konnte sich 10 mit dem Herzog nicht vertragen, sie ließ dem Abel melben, sie komme wieder Niemand glaubt's

Zimmermeister. Gott verzeih's bem Abel, daß er uns biese neue Geißel über ben Halb gelassen hat. Sie hatten es abwenden konnen Unsie Brivilegien sind hin.

5 Setter. Um Gottes willen nichts von Privilegien! Ich wittre den Geruch von einem Executionsmorgen, die Sonne will nicht hervor, die Nebel ftinken.

Soeft Dranien ist auch weg.

Zimmermeister. So sind wir benn ganz verlassen! 20 Soest. Graf Egmont ist noch ba

Jetter. Gott sei Dank! Starken ihn alle Heiligen, daß er sein Bestes thut! Der ist allem was vermogend.

Banfen tutt auf

Van fen Find' ich endlich ein Paai, die noch nicht unter= 25 gekrochen sind ?

Jetter. Thut uns ben Gefallen und geht furbaß! Banfen. Ihr feid nicht hoflich.

Bimmermeister. Es ist gat keine Zeit zu Kompli= menten. Juckt Cuch der Buckel wieder? Seid Ihr schon 30 durchgeheilt? Wan fen. Fragt einen Soldaten nach seinen Wunden! Wenn ich auf Schlage was gegeben hatte, ware sein Tage nichts aus nin geworden.

Setter G3 fann einstlicher werben.

Banfen. Ihr fpurt von dem Gewitter, bas aufsteigt, eine 5 erbarmliche Mattigkeit in ben Gliebern, schemt's

Bimmermerfter. Deine Glieber werden sich balb mo anders eine Motion machen, wenn Du nicht ruhft

Wansen. Armselige Mäuse, die gleich verzweiseln, wenn ber Hausherr eine neue Katze anschafft! Nur ein Bischen 10 anders, aber wir treiben unser Wesen vor wie nach, seid nur ruhig!

Bimmeimeister. Du bist ein verwegener Taugenichts Bansen Gevatter Tiops! Laß Du den Gerzog nur gewähren. Der alte Kater steht aus, als wenn et Teufel 15 statt Mause gestessen hatte und konnte sie nun nicht verdauen Laßt ihn nur eist! Ei muß auch essen, trinken, schlasen wie andere Menschen. Es ist mir nicht bange, wenn wir unsere Zeit recht nehmen. Im Ansange geht's rasch, nachher wild er auch sinden, daß in der Speisekammer unter den Speissetten 20 besser ist und des Nachts zu ruhen, als auf dem Fruchts boden einzelne Mäuschen zu erlisten. Geht nur, ich kenne die Statthalter.

Bimmermeister. Was so einem Menschen Alles burchgeht! Wenn ich in meinem Leben so etwas gesagt 25 hatte, hielt' ich nuch keine Minute fur sicher

Vansen Seid nur ruhig! Gott im himmel erfahrt nichts von Euch Wurmern, geschweige ber Regent.

Setter. Laftermaul!

Nansen. Ich weiß Andere, benen es besser ware, sie hatten 30 statt ihres Gelbenmuths eine Schneiberaber im Leibe.

Bimmermeister. Was wollt Ihr bamit fagen?

The state of the s

Banfen. Sm, ben Grafen mein' ich.

Better. Egmont! Was foll ber fuchten?

Van fen Ich bin ein aimer Teufel, und konnte ein ganzes Inhr leben von dem, was ei in Einem Abende veiliett Und 5 voch konnt' er mir fein Einkommen eines ganzen Jahis geben, rvenn er meinen Kopf auf eine Wiertelstunde hatte.

Jetter. Du denkst Dich was Rechts Egmonts Haare find gescheiter als Dein Gin.

Banfen. Reb't Ihr! Aber nicht feiner Die Geiren 10 betrugen sich am ersten. Er follte nicht trauen.

Jetter. Was er schwatt! Go ein Beit!

Banfen. Chen weil et fein Schneiber ift.

Jetter. Ungewaschen Maul ! hat Water.

Vanfen Dem wollt' ich Eure Courage nur eine Stunde 15 in die Glieder wunschen, daß sie ihm da Unruh machte und ihn so lange neckte und juckte, bis er aus der Stadt mußte.

Jetter. Ihr rebet recht unverstandig, er ist so sicher wie ber Stein am himmel.

Bansen. Haft Du nie einen fich schneuzen gesehn? 20 Weg war er!

Bimmeimeister Wei will ihm benn was thun? Vanfen. Wei will? Willst Du's etwa hindern? Willst Du einen Aufruhi eriegen, wenn sie ihn gesangen nehmen? Tetter. Ah!

25 Banfen Wollt Ihr Eure Rippen fur ihn wagen? Soeft. Ch!

Vansen (sie nachassend) Ih! Oh! Uh! Verwundert Euch durchs ganze Alphabet. So ist's und bleibt's! Gott bewahre ihn!

o Jetter. Ich erschiecke über Eure Unverschamtheit. So ein ebler, rechtschaffener Mann sollte was zu befrichten haben? Vanfen. Der Schelm sitzt uberall im Wortheil Auf bem Armensunder-Stuhlchen hat er den Richter zum Narren, auf dem Richterstuhl macht er den Inquisiten mit Lust zum Beibrecher. Ich habe so ein Protokoll abzuschreiben gehabt, wo der Kommussarus schwer Lob und Geld vom Hose einelt, 5 weil er einen ehrlichen Teufel, an den man wollte, zum Schelmen verhort batte.

Bimmermeister. Das ift wieder filfch gelogen. Was wollen fie denn heraus verhoren, wenn Cinei unschuldig ist?

Wansen. D Spakenkopf! Wo nichts beraus zu ver= 10 horen ift, da verhort man hinein. Chilichkeit macht unbesonnen, auch wohl trotig. Da fragt man erst sachte weg, und ber Gefangene ift ftolz auf feine Unschuld, wie fie's beigen, und fagt Alles gerad zu, was ein Berftandiger verbaige. Dann macht der Inquisitor aus ben Antworten wieder Fragen, und 15 paßt ja auf, wo ugend ein Widerspruchelchen erscheinen will, da knupft er seinen Strick an, und lagt sich ber bumme Teufel betreten, daß er hier etwas zu viel, bort etwas zu wenig gesagt, ober wohl gar, aus Gott weiß was fur einer Grille, einen Umftand verschwiegen hat, auch wohl irgend an 20 einem Ende fich hat schieden laffen , bann find wir auf bem rechten Weg! Und ich versichere Cuch, mit mehr Sorgfalt fuchen die Bettelweiber nicht die Lumpen aus bem Rehricht, als fo ein Schelmenfabricant aus kleinen, schiefen, verschobenen, verruckten, verdruckten, geschlossenen, bekannten, ge= 25 laugneten Angeigen und Umftanden fich endlich einen ftroblumpenen Bogelscheu zusammenkunftelt, um wenigstens feinen Inquisten in effigie hangen zu konnen. Und Gott mag ber arme Teufel banten, wenn er fich noch kann hangen feben.

Jetter. Der hat eine gelaufige Zunge.

Bimmermeister. Mit Fliegen mag das angehen. Die Wespen lachen eures Gespinnstes.

Vansen. Nachbem die Spinnen find. Seht, der lange Beizog hat Euch so ein rein Ansehn von einer Kreuzspinne, nicht einer diehauchigen, die sind weniger schlinim, aber so einer langfußigen, schmalleibigen, die vom Traße nicht feist wird und recht dunne Kaden zieht, aber besto zahere.

Jetter. Egmont ift Ritter bes goldnen Wlieses, wer barf Sand an ihn legen? Nin von seines Gleichen kann er gerichtet weiben, nur vom gesammten Orben Dein loses Maul, Dein boses Gewissen versuhren Dich zu solchem 10 Geschwäh.

Van sen. Will ich ihm barum ubel? Mir kann's recht sein Es ist ein trefflicher Gerr. Ein paar meiner guten Freunde, die anderwarts schon waren gehangen worden, hat er mit einem Buckel voll Schlage verabschiedet. Nun geht!

15 Geht! Ich rath' es Euch selbst. Dort seh' ich wieder eine Runde antreten, die sehen nicht aus, als wenn ste so bald Bruderschaft mit uns trinken wurden. Wir wollen's abwarten, und nur sachte zusehen.

Der Culenburgische Palaft.

Wohnung des Herzogs von Alba.

Silva und Gomeg begegnen einander.

Silva. Saft Du die Befehle des herzogs ausgerichtet? Gomez. Bunftlich. Alle tagliche Runden find beoidert, zur bestimmten Zeit an verschiedenen Plagen einzutreffen, die 25 ich ihnen bezeichnet habe, sie gehen indeß, wie gewohnlich, durch die Stadt, um Didnung zu erhalten. Keiner weiß von dem Andern; Ieder glaubt, der Besehl gehe ihn allein an, und in einem Augenblick kann alsdann der Cordon gezogen, und

alle Zugange zum Palaft konnen besetzt sein. Weißt Du bie Urfache bieses Befehls?

Silva. Ich bin gewohnt, blindlings zu gehorchen Und wem gehorcht sich's leichter als bein Herzoge, da balb bei Ausgang bewerft, daß er recht befohlen hat?

Somez Gut' Gut! Auch scheint es mir kein Wunder, daß Du so verschlossen und einstlichig wirst wie ei, da Du immer um ihn sein mußt. Mir kommt es fremd voi, da ich den leichteren italienischen Dienst gewohnt bin. An Treue und Gehorsam bin ich der alte, abei ich habe mit das Schrägen io und Raisonniten angewohnt. Ihr schweigt Alle und laßt es Euch nie wohl sein. Der Heizog gleicht mir einem ehernen Thurm ohne Pforte, wozu die Besatzung Flugel hatte. Neulich hort' ich ihn bei Tasel von einem sichen, seundlichen Menschen sagen, er sei wie eine schlechte Schenke mit einem ausgesteckten is Biannitwein-Zeichen, um Mußigganger, Bettler und Diebe heienzulocken.

Silva. Und hat er uns nicht schweigend hierher geführt?

Somez. Dagegen ift nichts zu fagen. Gewiß! Wei 20 Zeuge seiner Klugheit war, wie et die Armee aus Italien hierher brachte, der hat etwas geschen. Wie er sich durch Freund und Veind, durch die Franzosen, Koniglichen und Ketzer, durch die Schweizer und Verbundenen gleichsan durch=schmiegte, die stiengste Nannszucht hielt, und einen Zug, den 25 man so gesahrlich achtete, leicht und ohne Anstoß zu leiten wußte!— Wur haben was gesehen, was leinen konnen

Silva. Auch hier! Ift nicht Alles still und ruhig, als wenn kein Aufstand gewesen ware?

Gomez. Nun, es war auch schon meist still, als wir 30 herkamen.

Silva. In den Provinzen ift es viel zuhiger geworden,

und wenn sich noch einer bewegt, so ist es, um zu entstiehen. Aber auch biesent wird er die Wege bald versperren, dent' ich

Somez Nun wird er eist die Gunst des Konigs ge-

- 5 Silva. Und und bleibt nichts angelegner, als und die feinige zu eihalten. Wenn der Konig hierher kommt, bleibt gewiß der Herzog und Leder, den er empfiehlt, nicht unbelohnt.
 - Gomeg. Glaubst Du, daß ber Konig kommit?
- Silva Es werben so viele Anstalten gemacht, daß es 10 höchst mahrscheinlich ist
 - Gomeg. Mich uberreben fie nicht
 - Silva. So rede menigstens nicht davon Denn wenn bes Konigs Absticht ja nicht sein sollte, zu kommen, so ist ste's doch wenigstens gewiß, daß man es glauben soll.

15 Ferbinand, Alba's natürlicher Sohn, tritt auf

Berdinand. Ift mein Bater noch nicht heraus? Silva. Wir marten auf ihn.

Terbinand. Die Tuiften werben balb bier fein.

Come 3. Kommen fle heute?

20 Ferdinand. Dianien und Egmont

Gomez (leife zu Silva) Ich begreife etwas.

Silva. So behalt' es fin Dich!

Herzog von Alba, tutt auf.

(Wie er herein- und hervortritt, treten die Andern guruck)

25 Alba. Gomez!
Gomez (tutt vor) Gerr!
Alba Du haft die Wachen vertheilt und beordert?
Gomez. Aufs Genaueste Die taglichen Runden—
Alba. Genug! Du wartest in der Galerie. Silva

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wird Dir ben Augenblick sagen, wenn Du fle zusammenziehen, bie Zugange nach bem Palaft besetzen sollst. Das Uebrige weißt Du.

Gomez. In, Herr! (Ab)

Alba. Silva!

Silva. Hier bin ich.

Alba. Alles, mas ich von jeher an Dir geschatt habe, Muth, Entschlossenheit, i Fr. fam 2 Aussuhren, das zeige heut!

Silva. Ich danke Euch, daß Ihr mur Gelegenheit gebt 10 zu zeigen, daß ich der alte bin.

Alba. Sobald die Tursten bei mir eingetieten sind, dann eile gleich, Cgmonts Geheimschreiber gefangen zu nehmen! Du haft alle Anstalten gemacht, die Uebrigen, welche bezeichnet sind, zu fahen?

Silva. Beitraue auf uns! Ihr Schieffal wird sie wie eine wohlberechnete Sonnenfinsterniß punttlich und schrecklich treffen.

Alba. Saft Du fie genau beobachten laffen?

Silva. Alle, den Egmont vor Andein. Et ift der Einzige, 20 der, seit Du hier bist, sein Betiagen nicht geandeit hat. Den ganzen Tag von einem Pfeid aufs andere, ladet Gaste, ist immet lustig und unterhaltend bei Tasel, wurselt, schießt und schleicht Nachts zum Liebchen. Die Andern haben dagegen eine merkliche Bause in ihrer Lebensart gemacht, sie bleiben 25 bei sich, vor ihrer Thure sieht's aus als wenn ein Kranker in Hause ware.

Alba. Drum rasch, eh' ste uns wider Willen genesen! Silva. Ich stelle ste. Auf Deinen Befehl uberhaufen the wir ste mit in. Ihnen graut's, politisch zogeben ste uns in Dank, fuhlen, das Rathlichste sei, zu entstliehen. Keiner wagt einen Schritt, ste zaubern,

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konnen sich nicht vereinigen, und einzeln etwas Kuhnes zu thun, halt sie der Gemeingeist ab. Sie mochten gern sich zedem Verdacht entziehen und machen sich immer verdachtiger Schon seh' ich mit Freuden Demen ganzen Anschlag aus= 5 gefuhrt.

Alba. Ich freue mich nur über das Geschehene, und auch über das nicht leicht, denn es bleibt stets noch übeig, was uns zu benfen und zu sorgen giebt. Das Gluck ist eigenstung, oft das Gemeine, das Nichtswurdige zu abeln und wohluber=
10 legte Thaten mit einem gemeinen Ausgang zu entehren Berweile, bis die Fursten kommen! Dann gieb Gomez die Didre, die Straßen zu besetzen, und eile selbst, Egmonts Schienber und die Uebrigen gefangen zu nehmen, die Dit bez zeichnet sind. Ift es gethan, so komm hierher und melb' es 15 meinem Sohne, daß er mit in den Nath die Nachricht beinge!

Silva. Ich hoffe, diesen Albend vor Die stehn zu dursen. Alba (geht nach seinem Sohne, der bisher in der Galerie gestanden)

Selva Ich traue mit es nicht zu sagen, aber meine 20 Hoffnung schwankt Ich suchte, es wird nicht werden wie er denkt Ich sehe Geister vor mir, die still und sinnend auf schwarzen Schalen das Geschick der Tursten und vieler Tausende wagen. Langsam wankt das Zunglein auf und ab, tief schenen die Machter' zu stinnen, zuletzt sinkt diese Schakz, 25 steigt zene, augehaucht vom Cigenstin des Schakzials, und entscheden ist's.

Alba mit Terbinand hervortretenb.

Alba. Wie fanbst Du bie Statt?

Ferdinand. Es hat sich Alles gegeben. Ich ritt als 30 wie zum Zeitvertreib, Straß' auf Straß' ab. Eure wohls vertheilten Wachen halten die Turcht so angespannt, daß sie

47 Y

fich nicht zu lispeln untersteht. Die Stadt sieht einem Felbe ahnlich, wenn das Gewitter von weitem leuchtet, man erblickt feinen Bogel, kein Thier, als das eilend nach einem Schutzorte schlupft.

Alba. Ift Dir nichts weiter begegnet?

Terdinand Egmont kan mit Einigen auf den Maikt geritten, wir grußten uns, er hatte ein 10hes Pfeid, das ich in ihm loben mußte. "Laßt uns eilen, Pfeide zuzureiten, wir ihm loben nußte. "Laßt uns eilen, Pfeide zuzureiten, wir ihm weiden sie bald brauchen!" tief er mir entgegen. Er werde nich noch heute wiedersehn, sagte er, und komme auf Euer 10 Verlangen, mit Euch zu rathschlagen.

Alba. Er wird Dich wiedersehn.

Terbinand Unter allen Rittern, die ich hier fenne, gefallt er mir am besten. Es scheint, wir werden Freunde sein

Alba. Du bist noch immer zu schnest und wenig 15 behutsam, immer erkenn' ich in Dir den Leichtsinn Deiner Mutter, der nin sie unbedingt in die Arme lieferte. Zu mancher gesahrlichen Verbindung lud Dich der Anschein voreilig ein

Ferdinand. Euer Wille findet mich bildfam. 1. 20 Alba. Ich vergebe Deinem jungen Blute dies leichtstnige Wohlwollen, diese unachtsame Trohlichkeit. Nur vergiß nicht, zu welchem Weike ich gesandt bin, und welchen Theil ich Dir daian geben mochte.

Terbinand Einnert mich, und schont mich nicht, 25 wo Ihr es nothig haltet!

Alba (nach einer Baufe) Mein Sohn!

Werbinanb Mein Bater!

Alba. Die Tursten konimen balb, Dianien und Egmont fommen. Es ist nicht Mistiguen, daß ich Dir eist jett 30 entdecke, was geschehen soll Sie werden nicht wieder von hinnen gehn.

1,0

Terbinand. Was finnft Du?

Alba. Es ift beschlossen, sie festzuhalten.—Du erstaunst! Was Du zu thun hast, hore! Die Ursachen sollst Du wissen, wenn es geschehen ist. Teht bleibt keine Zeit, sie auszulegen 5 Mit Dir allein wunscht' ich das Großte, das Geheiniste zu besprechen, ein starkes Band halt uns zusammengesesselt, du bist mir werth und lieb, auf dich mocht' ich Alles häusen. Nicht die Gewohnheit zu gehorchen allein mocht' ich Dir einpragen, auch den Sinn auszubrucken, zu besehlen, auszusuhren, vo wunscht' ich in Dir sortzupslanzen, Dir ein großes Erbtheil, dem Konige den brauchbarsten Diener zu hinterlassen, Dich mit dem besten, was ich habe, auszustatten, daß Du Dich nicht schänen dursest, unter Deine Bruder zu treten

Ferdinand Was werd' ich Dir nicht für diese Liebe 15 schuldig, die Du nin allein zuwendest, indem ein ganzes Reich vor Dir zitteit!

Alba Run hore, was zu thun ift! Sobald die Tursten eingetieten sind, wird jeder Zugang zum Palaste besetzt. Dazu hat Gomez die Ordie. Silva wird eilen, Egmonts Schreiber 20 mit den Berdachtigsten gefangen zu nehmen Du haltst die Wache am Thore und in den Hofen in Ordinung Wor allen Dingen, besetze diese Zimmer hierneben mit den sichersten Leuten! Dann warte auf der Galerie, die Silva wiederkommt, und bringe mir ingend ein unbedeutend Blatt herein, zum 25 Zeichen, daß sein Austrag außgerichtet ist. Dann bleib' im Worsaale, die Oranien weggeht, folg' ihm! Ich halte Egmont hier, als ob ich ihm noch was zu sagen hatte Am Side der Galerie fordre Oraniens Degen, ruse die Wache an, verwahre schnell den gesahrlichsten Mann, und ich fasse Egmont hier.

30 Ferbinand. Ich gehorche, mein Bater — zum ersten Mal mit schwerem Geizen und mit Sorge.

Alba. Ich verzeihe Dir's, es ist ber eiste große Tag, ben Du erlebst.

Silva (tritt herem)

Silva Ein Bote von Antwerpen. Hier ist Draniens Brief! Er kommt nicht.

Alba. Sagt' es ber Bote?

Silva. Mein, mit fagt's bas Berg

Alba. Aus Du fpricht mein bofer Genius (Nachbem er ben Bitef gelesen, winkt er Beiben, und fie ziehen fich in die Galotte zmuck Er bleibt allem auf dem Bordertheile) Er fommt nicht 1 10 Bis auf ben letten Augenblick verschiebt er, fich zu erklaren Ci wagt es, nicht zu kommen! So war denn diesmal wider Bermuthen ber Kluge klug genug, nicht klug zu fein! - Es in ruckt die Uhr! Noch einen kleinen Weg des Zeigers, und ein großes Wert ist gethan oder versammt, unwiederbringlich is versaumt, denn es ist weder nachzuholen noch zu verheimlichen. Langst hatt' ich Alles reiflich abgewogen, und mit auch biesen Fall gedacht, mit festgesetzt, was auch in diesem Falle zu thun fet, und jest, da es zu thun ift, wehr' ich mir kaum, daß \ nicht bas Tur und Wiber nur aufs Neue burch bie Seele 20 schwanft. - Ift's rathlich, die Andern zu fangen, wenn er mit entgeht? - Schieb' ich es auf, und laff' Egmont mit ben Seinigen, mit fo Bielen entschlupfen, die nun, vielleicht nut heute noch, in meinen Handen find? So zwingt Dich 12. " bas Geschick benn auch, Du Unbezwinglicher? Wie lang' 25 gebacht! Wie mohl bereitet! Wie groß, wie schon ber Plan! Wie nah' die Hoffnung ihrem Ziele! Und nun im Augenblick bes Entscheidens bift Du zwischen zwei Uebel gestellt, wie in einen Loostopf greifft, Du in bie buntle Bukunft, was Du faffest, ift noch zugeiollt, Dit unbewußt, fei's Tieffer ober 30 Fehler! (Er wird aufmerksam, wie Einer, ber etwas hort, und tritt ans Tenfter) Er ift es! - Egmont! Ting Dich Dein Pferd

fo leicht herein, und scheute vor dent Blutgeruche nicht, und vor dem Geiste mit dem blanken Schwert, der an der Pforte Dich empfangt?—Steig ab!—So bist Du mit dem einen Tuß im Grab—und so mit beiden!— Ja, streich! es nur, 5 und klopfe für seinen muthigen Dienst zum letztenmale den Nacken ihm!—Und mir bleibt keine Wahl. In dei Verblendung, wie hier Egmont naht, kann er Dir nicht zum zweitenmal sich liesen!— Hort!

Terbinand und Silva treten eilig herbei

10 Ihr thut, was ich befahl, ich andre meinen Willen nicht.

Ich halte, wie es gehn will, Cymont auf, bis Du mir von
Silva die Nachricht gebracht haft. Dann bleib' in der Nahe
Luch Dir raubt das Geschief das große Verdienst, des Konigs
größten Feind mit eigener Hand gesangen zu haben (Zu Silva)
15 Eile! (Zu Feidmand) Geh ihm entgegen. (Alba bleibt einige
Augenblicke allein und geht schweigend auf und ab)

Cgmont tutt auf

Eg mont. Ich komme, die Befehle bes Konigs zu vernehmen, zu horen, welchen Dienst er von unserer Treue verlangt, 20 die ihm ewig eigeben bleibt.

Alba. Er wunscht vor allen Dingen Euren Rath zu horen. Eg mont Ueber welchen Gegenstand? Kommt Diamen auch? Ich vermuthete ihn hier

Alba. Mir thut es leib, daß er und eben in biefer 25 wichtigen Stunde fehlt Euren Rath, Cure Meinung wunscht der Konig, wie diese Staaten wieder zu befriedigen. In, er hofft Ihr weidet fraftig mitwilfen, diese Unruhen zu stillen und die Ordnung der Provinzen vollig und dauerhaft zu grunden

Cg mont. Ihr konnt besser wissen als ich, daß schon Alles 30 genug beruhigt ist, ja, noch mehr beiuhigt war, eh' die Cr=

scheinung ber neuen Soldaten wieder mit durcht und Soige bie Gemüther bewegte

Alba. Ihr scheint andeuten zu wollen, das Rathlichste sei gewesen, wenn der Konig mich gar nicht in den Tall gesetzt hätte, Cuch zu fragen

Egmont Beizelbt! Db der Konig bas Geer batte schicken sollen, ob nicht vielmehr die Macht seiner majest itischen Gegenswart allein stärker gewirft hatte, ist meine Sache nicht zu bemitbeilen. Das Geei ist da, ei nicht. Wir aber mußten sehr undankbar, sehr vergessen sein, wenn wir uns nicht io einneiten, was wir ber Regentin schuldig sind Bekennen wir! Sie brachte durch ihr so fluges als tapseies Betragen die Ausrührer mit Gewalt und Ansehn, mit Ueberredung und List zur Aube, und suhrte zum Cistaunen der Welt ein restellisches Bolf in nenigen Monaten zu seiner Pflicht zurück is

Alba Ich leugne es nicht Der Tumult ist gestillt, und Jeder scheint in die Grenzen des Geborsams zuruckgebaunt Aber bangt es nicht von eines Jeden Willtur ab, sie zu verslassen? Wer nill bas Wolf hindern, loszubiechen? Wo ist die Macht, sie abzuhalten? Wer burgt uns, daß sie sich seiner 20 treu und unterthänig zeigen werden? Ihr guter Wille ist alles Pfand, das wir baben

Cg mont Und ift der gute Wille eines Wolfs nicht bas sicherste, bas erelfte Pfand? Bei Gott! Wann daif sich ein Konig sicherer halten, als wenn sie Alle fur Cinen, Ciner fur 25 Alle stehn? Sicherer gegen innere und außere Teinde?

Alba. Wit merden uns boch nicht überreben follen, daß es jett bier so fieht?

Egmont. Der König schreibe einen General-Paidon aus, er berubige die Gemüthet, und bald wird man sehen, wie 30 Treue und Liebe mit dem Zutrauen wieder zurucksehrt

Alba. Und Jeder, ber die Majestät bes Konigs, ber bas

Seiligthum ber Religion geschandet, ginge frei und ledig hin und wieder, lebte den Andern zum bereiten Beispiel, baß ungeheure Beibrechen straflos sind!

Egmont. Und ist ein Beibiechen des Unsinns, der 5 Trunkenheit nicht eher zu entschuldigen, als grausam zu bestrafen? Besonders wo so sichre Hoffnung, wo Gewissheit ist, daß die Uebel nicht wiederkehren werden? Waren Konige darum nicht sicherer? Werden ste nicht von Welt und Nachswelt gepriesen, die eine Beleidigung ihrer Wurde vergeben, 10 bedauern, verachten konnten? Weiden ste nicht eben deswegen Gott gleich gehalten, der viel zu gloß ist, als daß an ihn zebe Lasterung reichen sollte?

Alba. Und eben baum soll ber Konig fur die Wurde Gottes und ber Religion, wir sollen fur-das Unsehn bes 15 Konigs streiten. Was der Obere abzulehnen verschnicht, ist unseie Pslicht zu rachen. Ungestraft soll, wenn ich rathe, tein Schuldiger sich freuen.

Egniont. Glaubst Du, daß Du sie Alle erreichen wirst? Hort man nicht taglich, daß die Tuicht sie hie= und dahin, 20 sie aus dem Lande treibt? Die Geichsten werden ihre Guter, sich, ihre Kinder und Freunde fluchten, der Arme wird seine nutlichen Kande dem Nachbar zublingen.

Alba Sie weiden, wenn man sie nicht verhindern kann Daium verlangt der Konig Nath und That von jedem Tursten, 25 Einst von jedem Statthalter, nicht nur Erzahlung wie es ist, was weiden konnte, wenn man Alles gehen ließe wie's geht.

Sinem großen liebel zusehen, sich mit Hoffmung schmeicheln, der Beit vertrauen, etwa einmal drein schlagen, wie im Kastenachtsspiel, daß es klatscht und man doch etwas zu thun 30 scheint, wenn man nichts thun mochte — heißt das nicht, sich verdachtig machen, als sehe man dem Aussuhr mit Vergnugen zu, den man nicht eiregen, wohl aber hegen mochte?

Eamont (im Beariff aufzufahren, nimmt fich zusammen, und spricht nach einer kleinen Bause gesett) Richt jede Absicht ist offenbar, und manches Mannes Absicht ift zu mißbeuten. Muß man boch auch von allen Seiten horen, es fei bes Konigs Absicht weniger, die Provinzen nach einformigen und flaien s Gesetzen zu regieren, die Majestat ber Religion zu fichern und einen allgemeinen Trieden feinem Bolfe zu geben, als vielmehr fie unbedingt zu unterjochen, fie ihrer alten Rechte zu berauben. fich Meister von ihren Besiththumern zu machen, die schonen Rechte des Abels einzuschranten, um berentwillen ber Cole 10 allein ihm bienen, ihm Leib und Leben widmen mag. Religion, fagt man, fer nur ein prachtiger Teppich, hinter bem man teden gefahrlichen Anschlag nur besto leichter ausbenkt. Das Wolf liegt auf ben Knieen, betet bie beiligen gewirkten Beichen an, und hinten lauscht ber Bogelfteller, 15 ber fie bezucken will

Alba. Das muß ich von Dir horen?

Eg mont. Nicht meine Gestinnungen! Nur was balb hier, bald da, von Gloßen und von Kleinen, Klugen und Thoien gesprochen, saut verbieitet wird. Die Niederlander 20 surchten ein doppeltes Joch, und wer burgt ihnen für ihre Kreiheit?

Alba. Freiheit? Ein schones Wort, wer's recht verstande. Was wollen sie fur Freiheit? Was ist des Freiesten Freiheit?— Recht zu thun!— Und daran wird sie der Konig 25 nicht hindern. Nein, nein! Sie glauben sich nicht frei, wenn sie sich nicht selbst und Andern schaden konnen. Ware es nicht besser, abzudanken, als ein solches Volk zu regieren? Wenn auswartige Veinde drangen, an die kein Burger denkt, der nich dem Nachsten nur beschaftigt ist, und der Konig verlangt 30 Beistand, dann werden sie uneins unter sich, und verschworen sich gleichsam nich ihren Teinden. Weit besser ist's, sie eins

zuengen, daß man ste wie Kinder halten, wie Kinder zu ihrem Besten leiten kann. Glaube nur, ein Bolk wird nicht alt, nicht flug, ein Bolk bleibt immer kindisch.

Egmont. Wie selten kommt ein Konig zu Berstand!
5 Und sollen sich Biele nicht lieber Bielen vertrauen als Einem?
Und nicht einmal dem Einen, sondern den Wenigen des Einen, dem Volke, das an den Blicken seines Herrn altert. Das hat wohl allein das Recht, klug zu werden.

Alba. Bielleicht eben barum, weil es sich nicht selbst 10 uberlassen ist.

Egnnont. Und darum Niemand gein sich selbst überlassen mochte. Man thue, was man will, ich habe auf Deine Frage geantwortet, und wiederhole Es geht nicht! Es kann nicht gehen! Ich kenne meine Landsleute. Es sind Mainer, werth Is Gottes Boden zu betreten, ein Ieder rund für sich, ein kleiner König, sest, ruhrig, sahig, treu, an alten Sitten hangend Schwer ist's, ihr Zutrauen zu verdienen, leicht, zu erhalten. Starr und sest! Zu drucken sind sie, nicht zu unterdrucken

Alba (bet sich indeß einigemal umgeschen hat) Solltest Du 20 bas Alles in des Konigs Gegenwart wiederholen?

Egmont. Defto schlimmer, wenn nich seine Gegenwart abschreckte! Desto besser für ihn, für sein Bolf, wenn er mit Muth machte, wenn er mit Zutrauen einstoffte, noch weit mehr zu sagen.

25 Alba. Was nüglich ist, kann ich horen wie er.

Egmont. Ich wurde ihm fagen Leicht kann ber hirt eine ganze Gerbe Schafe vor sich hintieiben, ber Stiel zieht feinen Pflug ohne Widelftand, aber bem ebeln Pfeibe, bas Du reiten willft, niußt Du feine Gebanken ablernen, Du mußt 30 nichts Unkluges, nichts unklug von ihm verlangen Daium wünscht ber Buiger seine alte Verfassung zu behalten, von feinen Landsleuten regiett zu sein, weil ei weiß, wie er ge-

fuhrt wird, weil er von ihnen Uneigennut, Theilnehmung an feinem Schicksal hoffen fann.

Alba. Und sollte der Regent nicht Macht haben, dieses alte Herbonnen zu verandern? Und sollte nicht eben dies sein schonstes Borrecht sein? Was ist bleibend auf dieser Swelt? Und sollte eine Staatseinrichtung bleiben konnen? Muß nicht in einer Zeitsolge zedes Verhaltniß sich verandern, und eben darum eine alte Verfassung die Arfache von tausend Uebeln werden, weil sie den gegenwartigen Zustand des Volkes nicht umfaßt? Ich surchte, diese alten Rechte sind darum so angenehm, weil sie Schlupswinkel bilden, in welchen der Kluge, der Machtige, zum Schaden des Volks, zum Schaden des Ganzen, sich verbeigen oder durchschleichen kann

Eg mont Und diese willturlichen Veranderungen, diese unbeschrankten Eingriffe der hochsten Gewalt, sind sie nicht 15 Vorboten, daß Einer thun will, was Tausende nicht thun sollen? Er will sich allein sier machen, um zeden seiner Wunsche bestiedigen, zeden seiner Gedanken aussuhren zu konnen. Und wenn wir uns ihm, einem guten weisen Konige, ganz vertrauten, sagt er uns für seine Nachkommen gut, daß 20 seiner ohne Rucksicht, ohne Schonung regieren werde? Wei rettet uns alsdann von volliger Willfur, wenn er uns seine Diener, seine Nachsten sender Welleben schalten und walten, seinen Wideistand sinden, und sich von zeder Verant= 25 wortung sier wissen?

Alba (bet sich undes wieder umgesehen hat) Es ist nichts naturlicher, als daß ein Konig durch sich zu heirschen ge= deutt, und denen seine Beschle am liebsten auftragt, die ihn am besten verstehen, verstehen wollen, die seinen Willen un= 30 bedingt ausrichten.

Cgmont. Und eben so naturlich ist's, bag ber Burger

von dem regiert sein will, der mit ihm geboren und erzogen ist, der gleichen Begriff mit ihm von Necht und Unrecht gesaßt hat, den er als seinen Bruder ansehen kann

Alba. Und doch hat der Adel mit diesen seinen Brudern

5 fehr ungleich getheilt.

Egmont Das ist vor Jahrhunderten geschehen, und wird jetzt ohne Neid geduldet Wurden aber neue Menschen ohne Noth gesendet, die sich zum zweitenmale auf Unkosten der Nation bereichern wollten, sahe man sich einer strengen, so suhnen, unbedingten Sabsucht ausgesetzt, das wurde eine Gahrung machen, die sich nicht leicht in sich selbst ausloste.

Alba. Du fagst mur, was ich nicht horen sollte, auch

ich bin fremd.

Egmont Daß ich Dir's sage, zeigt Dir, daß ich Dich

Alba Und auch so wunscht' ich es nicht von Dir zu horen Der Konig sandte mich mit Hoffnung, daß ich hier den Beistand des Abels sinden wurde Der Konig will seinen Willen. Der Konig hat nach tieser Ueberlegung gesehen, was dem Volke frommt, es kann nicht bleiben und gehen wie bisher Des Konigs Absicht ist, sie selbst zu ihrem eignen Besten einzuschranken, ihr eigenes Seil, wenn's sein muß, ihnen auszubringen, die schadlichen Burger auszuspfern, damit die Uebigen Ruhe sinden, des Glucks einer weisen Regierung 25 genießen konnen. Dies ist sein Entschluß, diesen dem Abel sund zu machen, habe ich Besehl, und Rath verlang' ich in seinen Namen, wie es zu thun sei, nicht was, denn das hat Er beschlossen

Cgmont. Leiber rechtfertigen Deine Worte die Furcht des 30 Volks, die allgemeine Furcht! So hat er denn beschlossen, was kein Furst beschließen sollte. Die Kraft seines Volks, ihr Genruth, den Begriff, den ste von sich selbst haben, will

er schwächen, nieberbrücken, zersibren, um sie bequem regieren zu konnen Er will ben innern Kern ihrer Cigenheit versteiben, gewiß in der Absicht, sie glucklicher zu machen. Er will sie vernichten, damit sie etwas werden, ein ander Etwas. D wenn seine Absicht gut ist, so wird sie nufgeleitet! Nicht 5 dem Konige widersest man sich, man stellt sich nur dem Konige entgegen, der einen falschen Weg zu wandeln die ersten unglucklichen Schritte macht.

Alba Wie Du gefinnt bift, scheint es ein vergeblicher Beisuch, uns vereinigen zu wollen Du bentst gering vom 10 Konige und verachtlich von seinen Nathen, wenn Du zweiselst, das Alles sei nicht schon gedacht, gepiust, gewogen worden Ich habe keinen Auftrag, jedes Tur und Wider noch einmal durchzugehen. Gehorsam fordie ich von dem Volke—
und von Euch, ihr Ersten, Edelsten, Rath und That, als 15 Burgen dieser unbedingten Pflicht.

Egmont Fordre unsie Haupter, so ist es auf Einmal gethan. Ob sich der Nacken diesem Joche biegen, ob er sich vor dem Beile ducken soll, kann einer edlen Seele gleich sein Umsonst hab' ich so viel gesprochen, die Luft hab' ich 20 erschuttert, weiter nichts gewonnen.

Teibinand fommt

Terbinand. Werzeiht, daß ich Cuer Gespiach untersbreche hier ift ein Brief, dessen Ueberbringer die Antwort bringend macht.

Alba Erlaubt nur, daß ich sehe, was er enthalt (Tritt an die Seite)

Ferbinand (zu Egmont) Es ift ein schones Pferb, bas Eure Leute gebracht haben, Cuch abzuholen.

Eg mont. Es ist nicht bas schlimmite. Ich hab' es schon 30 eine Weile, ich bent' es wegzugeben. Wenn es Cuch gefallt, so weiden wir vielleicht des Handels einig.

Ferdinand Gut, wir wollen sehn Alba (winkt seinem Sohne, der sich in den Grund zwieckt) Egmont. Lebt wohl! Entlaßt nich! Denn ich wußte, bei Gott, nicht nicht zu sugen

5 Alba. Glucklich hat Dich bei Zufall verhindert, Deinen Sinn noch weiter zu verrathen Unvorsichtig entwickelft Du die Valten Deines Geizens, und klagst Dich selbst weit strenger an, als ein Widersacher gehassig thun tonnte

Cgmont Dieser Vorwurf ruhrt mich nicht, ich feine 10 mich selbst genug, und weiß, wie ich dem Konig angehore, weit mehr als Viele, die in seinem Dienst sich selber dienen Ungern scheid ich aus diesem Streite, ohne ihn beigelegt zu sehen, und wunsche nur, daß uns der Dienst des Heiln, das Wohl des Landes bald vereinigen moge Es wirft vielleicht 15 ein wiederholtes Gesprach, die Gegenwart der übeigen Vursten, die heute sehlen, in einem glucklichern Augenblick, was heut unmoglich scheint Mit dieser Hoffnung entsein' ich nuch.

Alba (der zugleich seinem Sohn Ferdinand ein Zeichen giebt) Halt, Egniont! — Deinen Degen! — (Die Mittelthur offnet sich, 20 man sieht die Galeise mit Wache beseht, die unbewiglich bleibt)

Eg mont (ber staunend eine Weile geschwiegen) Dies wat, die Absicht? Dazu hast Du nich berufen? (Nach dem Degen greisend, als wenn er sich vertherdigen wollte) Bin ich denn wehrlos?

25 Alba. Der Konig befiehlt's, Du bift mein Gefangenei. (Bugleich treten von beiden Seiten Gewaffnete hriem)

Cgmont (nach einer Stille) Der Konig? — Dianien!
Dianien! (Nach einer Banse, seinen Degen hingebend) So
nimmi ihn! Ei hat weit ofter des Konigs Sache vertheidigt,
30 als diese Brust beschutzt (Ei geht durch die Mittelthur ab,
die Gewassneten, die im Zimmer sind, folgen ihm, ingleichen Alba's
Sohn Alba bleibt stehen Der Borhang fallt)

ARGUMENT.

ACT V.

The fifth act begins with a scene at dusk in the streets of Biussels Clarchen implores Brackenburg to help her to liberate Egmont, and when several citizens arrive she challenges them with words full of enthusiasm and fervour to contrive measures for Egmont's deliverance. The citizens listen to her address with pity and amazement, and asking Brackenburg to take her home they retire. On the approach of Alva's guard Clarchen is at last prevailed upon by Brackenburg to leave the spot and to 'go home,' which expression she repeats with a sinister significance.

The next scene shows us Egmont in his prison. A lamp is burning, and a couch stands in the background. The wearied prisoner, deprived of sleep and harassed by cares, expresses his feelings of horion at his approaching death in a soliloquy. He faintly indulges in the hope that Orange will venture some bold enterprise for him, that the people will gather in myriads, and that he will 'hail in joyfulness the freedom of the dawn of day'. If only Clarchen were a man, he thinks, she would be able to restore to him his liberty

The scene now changes to Clarchen's residence She enters, carrying a lamp and a glass of water. She places the light in the window as a sign for Brackenburg that she is still awake. He promised to bring her tidings of Egmont. Yet she knows that his doom is sealed. There is no one who would come forward for his safety, and she herself is weak and powerless. At last she hears a timid step, it is Brackenburg, who enters pale and frightened. He brings

her the sad tidings, which dispel every hope, that Egmont is condemned to death. He saw with his own eyes all the sinister preparations for the execution. His recital of the horrible sight produces an overwhelming effect on Clarchen, who is about to rush forth into the darkness of night Brackenburg keeps her back, and she produces a phial of poison which she once 'stole in play' from Brackenburg She could, herself, not survive the impending calamity, but conjures Brackenburg to live on as a comfort and support to her mother. Brackenburg implores her 'to pause on the brink of the precipice,' but she exclaims that she has 'conquered,' and that he should not call her back to the struggle

Clarchen goes to the window, as if to look out, and secretly drinks of the poison. The rest she places on the table, and beseeching Brackenburg to save himself, lest he should appear her murderer, she retires. Brackenburg leaves in irresolution and despair, and Clarchen's death is indicated by music and by the flame of the lamp which flickers up several times and then suddenly expires.

The scene, which now changes to Egmont's prison, shows him asleep on a couch A rustling of keys is heard, and servants enter with torches Ferdinand and Silva follow. The latter reads to Egmont his death-wairant, and tells him that a short time will be given to him to prepare himself and to set his house in order.

Silva retires with the attendants, but Ferdinand remains Egmont, who mistakes his motive in remaining behind, gives vent to his indignation, and addresses to him harsh words of reproof Ferdinand, however, reveals to the doomed man his innermost feelings of admiration for his noble character and of heartfelt pity for his hard fate Egmont beseeches him to find out means of rescuing him, but Ferdinand declares, in utter despair, that every attempt would be useless Alva's son is so overcome with grief that he cannot leave the fatal spot, and Egmont must urge on him to withdraw. At last he leaves hastily, overwhelmed with sorrow.

Egmont remains alone He is wearied, and nature 'asserts her right' he falls asleep, and a bright vision appears to him in his dream. Freedom, wearing the features of Clarchen, appears to him in a celestial garb, and with encouraging gestures holds out to him a laurel crown. Whilst she holds the wreath over his head, martial music is heard in the distance, and at the same moment the apparition vanishes Egmont awakes, comforted by the vision which inspires him with the hope, that his blood will not be shed in vain. When the drums approach he feels as if he were going forth to die a glorious death. Spanish soldiers occupy the background, and Egmont passes through them, with a firm and manly bearing, to meet his fate.



Fünfter Aufzug

Straffe.

Dammerung.

Rlaiden Bradenburg, Büiger.

5 Brackenburg. Liebchen, um Gottes willen, was nimmft Du vor?

Klarchen. Komm mit, Brackenburg! Du mußt die Menschen nicht kennen, wir bestein ihn gewiß. Denn was gleicht ihrer Liebe zu ihm? Teder fühlt, ich schwor' es, in sich die biennende Begier, ihn zu retten, die Gefahr von einem kostbaren Leben abzuwenden, und dem Freiesten die Freiheit wiederzugeben Komm! es sehlt nur an der Stimme, die sie zusammenuft In ihrer Seele lebt noch ganz frisch, was sie ihm schuldig sind! Und daß sein machtiger Arm allein von ihnen das Verderben abhalt, wissen sie Um seinet= und ihretwillen mussen sie Alles wagen. Und was wagen wir? Zum hochsten unser Leben, das zu erhalten nicht der Muhe werth ist, wenn er umkommt.

Bradenburg Ungluckliche' Du siehst nicht die Gewalt, 20 die uns mit eheinen Banden gefesselt hat.

Rlärchen Sie scheint mir nicht unuberwindlich Laß uns nicht lang' vergebliche Worte wechseln! Hier kommen wochen den alten, redlichen, wackern Mannern! Hort, Freunde! Nachbarn, hort! — Sagt, wie ist es nit Egmont?

Zimmermeister. Was will das Kind? Laß ste

Klauchen. Tietet naher, daß wir sachte reden, bis wir einig sind und starfer. Wir dursen nicht einen Augenblick versaumen! Die freche Thrannei, die es wagt, ihn zu fesseln, 5 zuckt schon den Dolch, ihn zu ermorden. D Freunde, mit jedem Schitt der Dammerung werd' ich angstlicher. Ich surchte diese Nacht Kommt! Wit wollen und theilen, mit' schnellem Lauf von Quartier zu Quartier rusen wir die Burger heraus. Ein Ieder greife zu seinen alten Wassen! Auf dem 10 Markte tressen wir und wieder, und unser Strom reißt einen Ieden mit sich sort. Die Veinde sehen sich unningt und überschen wir und sind erdruckt Was kann und eine Handvoll Anechte widerstehen? Und Er in unser Mitte kehrt zuruck, sieht sich besteit, und kann und einmal danken, und, die wir 15 ihm so tief verschuldet worden Er sieht vielleicht — gewiß, er sieht das Morgenroth am freien Hinnel wieder.

Bimmermeifter. Wie ift Dir, Madchen?

Klarchen. Konnt ihr mich misverstehn? Vom Grafen sprech' ich 'Ich spieche von Egmont.

Jetter. Nennt den Namen nicht! Er ist todtlich.

Klarchen. Den Namen nicht! Wie? Nicht biesen Namen? Wer nennt ihn nicht bei jeder Gelegenheit? Wo steht er nicht geschrieben? In diesen Steinen hab' ich oft mit allen seinen Lettein ihn gelesen. Nicht nennen? Was 25. soll das? Freunde? Gite, theure Nachbarn, Ihr traumt, bestinnt Euch! Seht mich nicht so starr und angstlich an! Blieft nicht schuchtern hie und bei Seite. Ich zus! Euch ja nin zu, was Ieder wunscht. Ist meine Stimme nicht Euces Seizens eigene Stimme? Wer wurse sich in dieser bangen 30 Nacht, eh' er sein unruhvolles Bette besteigt, nicht auf die

Kniee, ihn mit ernftlichem Gebet vom Himmel zu erringen? Fragt Euch einander! Frage Jeder fich felbst! Und wer spricht "Egmonts Freiheit ober ben Tod!" mu nicht nach

Jetter. Gott bewahr' uns! Da giebt's ein Unglud.

Bleibt, bleibt, und bruckt Euch nicht vor Rlarchen. seinem Namen weg, bem ihr Euch sonst so fioh entgegen brangtet! - Wenn ber Ruf ihn ankundigte, wenn es hieß "Egmont fommt! Er fommt von Gent!" ba hielten die Bewohner ber Straffen sich glucklich, durch die er reiten mußte. 10 Und wenn Ihr feine Pferbe schallen hortet, warf Jeder seine Arbeit bin, und über die bekummerten Gesichtec, die Ihr burchs Venfter ftedtet, fuhr wie ein Sonnenftrahl von feinem Angestchte ein Blick bei Treude und Hoffnung Da hobt Ihr Eure Rinder auf der Thurschwelle in die Hohe und beutetet "Sieh, bas ift Egmont, ber Giogte ba! Er ift's! 15 thnen Ci ift's, bon bem Ihr beffere Beiten, als Guie armen Bater lebten, einst zu erwarten habt " Laßt Eure Rinder nicht bereinft Cuch fragen "Wo ift er hin? Wo find die Beiten hin, die Ihr veispracht?" - Und fo wechseln wir Worte, 20 find mußig, verrathen ihn!

Schamt Cuch, Brackenburg! Lagt fie nicht ge= mabren! Steuert bem Unbeil!

Liebes Klaichen, wir wollen geben! Brackenburg Was wird die Mutter sagen? Bielleicht —

Rlarchen. Meinst Du, ich fet ein Rind, ober mahnstnnig? Was fann vielleicht? — Von dieser schiecklichen Gewißheit bringst Du mich mit keiner Hoffnung weg .- Ihr sollt mich horen, und Ihr werbet, benn ich feh's, Ihr feid befturzt und tonnt Euch felbit in Guren Bufen nicht wiederfinden 30 burch die gegenwartige Gefahr nur Cinen Blick in das Ver= gangne bringen, bas fur; Vergangne! Wenbet Gure Gebanken nach der Zukunft Konnt Ihr denn leben? Weidet Ihr, wenn er zu Grunde geht? Mit seinem Athem flieht der letzte Hand der Freiheit. Was war er Cuch? Fur wen übergab er sich der diingendsten Gesahr? Seine Wunden stoffen und heilten nur fur Euch. Die große Seele, die Euch alle trug, 5 beschrankt ein Kerker, und Schauer tuckschen Mordes schweben um sie her. Er denkt vielleicht an Euch, er hofft auf Euch, er, der nur zu geben, nur zu erfullen gewohnt war.

Bimmermeifter. Gevatter, fommt !

Klarchen. Und ich habe nicht Aline, nicht Mark, wie 10 Ih, boch hab' ich, was Cuch Allen eben fehlt, Muth und Berachtung der Gefahr Konnt' Euch mein Athem doch entzunden! Konnt' ich an meinen Busen druckend Cuch erwaimen und beleben! Kommt! In Curer Mitte will ich gehen!— Wie eine Tahne wehrlos ein ebles Heer von Krie= 15 gern wehend ansuhrt, so soll mein Geist um Eure Haupter stammen, und Liebe und Muth das schwankende, zerstreute Wolf zu einem suchterlichen Geer vereinigen

Better. Schaff' sie bei Seite, sie dauert mich.

(Burger ab)

Brackenburg Klachen, siehst Du nicht, wo wir sind?
Klarchen. Wo? Unter bem Himmel, der so oft sich herilicher zu wolden schien, wenn der Ede unter ihm herging.
Aus diesen Venstein haben sie herausgesehn, vier, sunf Kopfe
uber einander, an diesen Thuren haben sie gescharrt und genickt, 25
wenn ei aus die Menimen herabsah D ich hatte sie so lieb,
wie sie ihn ehrten! Ware er Thiann gewesen, mochten sie
immer vor seinem Valle seitwarts gehn. Aber sie liebten ihn!— D ihr Hande, die ihr an die Mugen griff't, zum Gehert konnt ihr nicht greisen— Brackenburg, und wir?— 30
Schelten wir sie?— Diese Aline, die ihn so oft fest hielten,

1

was thun sie sur ihn? — List hat in der Welt so viel erreicht — Du kennst Wege und Stege, kennst das alte Schloß Es ist nichts unmoglich, gieb mir einen Anschlag

Bradenburg. Wenn wir nach Sause gingen! Klarchen. Gut

Brackenburg. Dort an ber Ecke seh' ich Allbas Wache, laß boch die Stimme der Vernunft Dir zu Herzen dringen Haltst Du nich fur seig? Glaubst Du nicht, daß ich um Deinetwillen sterben konnte? Hier sind wir Beide toll, ich 100 gut wie Du. Siehst Du nicht das Unmögliche? Wenn Du Dich fastest! Du bist außer Dir

Klarchen Außer mir' Abscheulich! Brackenburg, Ihr seid außer Euch. Da Ihr laut den Helden verehrtet, ihn Treund und Schutz und Hoffnung nanntet, ihm Wwat rieft, wenn er kam, da stand ich in meinem Winkel, schob das Fenster halb auf, verbaig nuch lauschend, und das Gerz schlug mir höher als Euch allen. Setz schlagt mir's wieder hoher als Euch Allen! Ihr verbergt Euch, da es Noth ist, verleügnet ihn, und suhlt nicht, daß Ihr unteigeht, wenn er verdiebt

Brackenburg. Komm nach Hause!

Rlarchen. Nach Hause?

Brackenburg. Bestinne dich nur! Sieh Dich um! Dies sind die Straßen, die Du nur sonntaglich betratst, durch die Du sittsam nach der Kirche gingst, wo Du übertrieben 25 ehrbar zuintest, wenn ich nut einem freundlichen, grußenden Wort nuch zu Dir gesellte. Du stehst und iedest, handelst vor den Augen der offenen Welt, bestinne dich, Liebe, wozu hilft es und?

Klarchen. Nach Sause! Ia, ich bestinne mich Konnn, 30 Brackenburg, nach Sause! Weißt Du, wo meine Gennath ist? (Ab)

Gefangniß

burch eine Lampe erhellt, ein Ruhebett im Grunde.

Egmont allein.

Allter Freund, immer getreuer Schlaf, fliehst Du mich auch, wie die ubrigen Freunde? Wie willig senttest Du Dich auf 5 - mein freies Haupt herunter, und kuhltest, wie ein schoner Myrtenkranz der Liebe, meine Schlafe.! Mitten unter Waffen, auf der Woge des Lebens, ruht' ich leicht athmend, wie ein aufquellender Knabe, in deinen Armen. Wenn Sturme durch Zweige und Blatter sausten, Ast und Wipfel sich knirrend 10 bewegten, blieb innerst doch der Kein des Gerzens ungeregt. Was schuttelt Dich nun? Was erschuttert den sesken ungeregt. Was schuttelt Dich nun? Was erschuttert den sesken, treuen Sinn? Ich suhl's, es ist der Klang der Mordart, die an meiner Wurzel nascht. Noch steht ich ausrecht, und ein innrer Schauer durchsahrt mich Ja, sie uberwindet, die verratherische 15 Gewalt, sie untergrabt den sesken, hohen Stamm, und eh' die Rinde dorrt, sturzt krachend und zerschmetternd Deine Krone.

Warum benn jest, Der Du so oft gewalt'ge Soigen gleich Seisenblasen Dir vom Haupte weggewiesen, waium vermagst Du nicht die Ahnung zu verscheuchen, die tausenbsach in Dir 20 sich aus- und niedertreibt? Seit wann begegnet der Tod Dir suchteilich, mit bessen wechselnden Bilbern, wie mit den ubrigen Gestalten der gewohnten Erde, Du gelassen lebtest?— Auch ist ei's nicht, der rasche Veind, dem die gesunde Brust wetteiseind sich entgegen sehnt, der Kerter ist's, des Glabes 25 Worbild, dem Helden wie dem Feigen widerlich Unleidlich Lange ward mit's schon auf meinem gepolsterten Stuhle, wenn in stattlicher Versammlung die Fursten, was leicht zu entscheden war, mit wiederschienden Gesprachen überlegten, und zwischen dustern Wanden eines Saals die Balten der Decke mich 30

erbruckten Da eilt' ich fort, sobald es möglich war, und 1 asch aufs Pserd mit tiesem Athenzuge. Und frisch hinaus, da wo wir hingehoien! Ins Teld, wo aus der Eide dampsend zede nachste Wohlthat der Natur, und durch die Hinmel wehend alle Segen der Gestirne uns unwittern, wo wir, dem erdgebornen Riesen gleich, von der Beruhrung unstret Mutter krastiger uns in die Hohe reißen, wo wir die Menschheit ganz, und menschliche Begier in allen Abern fuhlen, wo das Verlangen vorzubringen, zu bestegen, zu erhaschen, seine Faust zugers glüht, wo der Soldat sein angebornes Recht auf alle Welt mit raschem Schritt sich anmaßt, und in funchterlicher Freiheit wie ein Hagelwetter durch Wiese, Feld und Wald verderbend streicht, und keine Grenzen kennt, die Menschen=

15 hand gezogen.

Du bist nun Bild, Crinnerungstraum des Glucks, das ich so lang' besessen, wo hat Dich das Geschick verratherisch - hingesuhrt? Versagt es Dir den nie gescheuten Tod voim Angesicht der Sonne rasch zu gonnen, um Dir des Grabes 20 Voigeschmack im eteln Woder zu beretten? Wie haucht ei mich aus diesen Steinen widig an! Schon start das Leben, vor dem Ruhebette, wie vor dem Grabe, scheut der Tuß

D Sorge, Sorge, bie Du vor ber Zeit ben Mord beginnst, 25 laß ab! — Seit wann ift Egmont benn allein, so ganz allein in bieser Welt? Dich macht der Zweisel suhlloß, nicht baß Glück Sit die Gerechtigkeit des Konigs, der Du lebenslang vertrautest, ist der Regentin Treundschaft, die fast—du daisst es Dir gestehn—sast Liebe war, sind sie auf einmal, wie ein 30 glanzend Leuerbild der Nacht, verschwunden und lassen Dich allein auf bunkelin Pfad zuruck? Wird an der Spitze Deiner Freunde Dianien nicht wagend sinnen? Wird nicht ein Volk sich sammeln und mit anschwellender Gewalt den alten Freund erretten?

D, '', p'n'; bie Ihr nuch einschließt, so vieler Geister wohlgemeintes Diangen nicht von nur ab, und welcher Muth aus meinen Augen sonst sich über sie ergoß, 5 ber kehre nun auß ihi en Gerzen in meines wieder. D ja, ste ruhien sich zu Tausenden! Sie kommen, stehen nur zur Seite! Ihr frommei Wunsch eilt diingend zu dem Himmel, ei bittet um ein Wunder. Und steigt zu meiner Rettung nicht ein Engel nieder, so seh' ich sie nach Lanz' und io Schweitein gieisen. Die Thore spalten sich, die Gitter springen, die Mauer sturzt von ihren Hauben ein, und der Freiheit des einbrechenden Tages steigt Egmont sichlich entsgegen. Wie manch bekannt Gesicht empfangt mich jauchzend!

Alch Klaichen, warst Du Mann, so sah' ich dich gewiß auch is, hier zuerst und dankte Du, was einem Konige zu danken hart ist, Freiheit.

<u>B</u>,

" Klarchens Saus.

Rlarchen

kommt mit einer Lampe und einem Glas Waffer aus der Kammer; fie 20 fett bas Glas auf den Tisch und tritt ans Kinster

Brackenbung? Seib Thi's? Was hort' ich benn? Noch Ntemand? Es war Ntemand! Ich will bie Lampe ins Fen= fter seizen, daß er sieht, ich wache noch, ich wate noch auf ihn Er hat mir Nachricht versprochen Nachricht? Entsetz= 25 siehe Gewißheit! — Egmont verütheist! — Welch Gericht barf ihn sorbein? Und sie verdammen ihn! Der Konig verzbammt ihn? Ober der Herzog? Und die Regentin entzieht sich! Dianien zaubert und alle seine Treunde! — Ist dies die Welt, von deren Wankelmuth, Unzuverlassisser ich viel 30

题并不是可能的时候的时候,而不是一个,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,不是一个时间,这个时间,我们也不是一个时间,这种时间,这种时间也是一个时间,这种时间,

25

gehort und nichts empfunden habe? Ift bies bie Welt?-Wer ware bos' genug, ben Theuein anzuseinden? Bosheit machtig genug, ben allgemein Erkannten fchnell zu . sturgen? Doch ist es so - es ist! - D Egmont, sicher hielt 5 ich Dich vor Gott und Menschen, wie in meinen Aimen! Was war ich Dir ? Du haft nich Dein genannt, mein ganzes Leben widmete ich Deinem Leben. — Was bin ich nun? Beigebens ftred' ich nach ber Schlinge, Die Dich faft, Die Sand Du hulftos, und ich frei! - hier ift bei Schluffel zu 10 meiner Thur. Un meiner Willfur hangt mein Gehen und Thelf the mein Kommen, und Dir bin ich zu nichts! - D bindet Sandowere, mich, damit ich nicht verzweisle, und weift mich in den tiefften Kerfer, daß ich bas Saupt an feuchte Mauein schlage, nach Freiheit minfle, traume, wie ich ihm helfen wollte, wenn 15 Fesseln mich nicht labmten, wie ich ihm belfen wurde. -Nun bin ich frei, und in der Freiheit liegt die Angst der continued Ohnmacht. — Mir felbst bewußt, nicht fabig, ein Glieb nach regandel seiner Gulfe zu ruhren! Ach leiber, auch der kleine Theil von

jchleichen, huften — Brackenburg — Er ift's — Elender guter Mann, Dem Schicksal bleibt sich immer gleich, Dem Liebchen offnet Dir die nachtliche Thur, und ach, zu welch unseliger Zusammenkunft

Brackenburg titt auf.

Klarchen. Du kommst so bleich und schuchtern, Bracken= burg! was ift's ?

Brackenburg. Durch Umwege und Gefahren such' ich Dich auf. Die großen Straßen sind besetzt, durch Gaßichen 30 und durch Winkel hab' ich nich zu Dir gestohlen.

Rlarchen. Cigabl', wie ift's?

Brackenburg (indem er sich setzt). Ach, Klare, laß mich weinen. Ich liebt' ihn nicht Er war der reiche Mann und lockte des Alimen einziges Schaf zur bessein Weide heruber. Ich hab' ihn nie verslucht, Gott hat mich treu geschaffen und eine kan weich. In Schmeizen sloß mein Leben von mir nieder, und 5 zu verschmachten hosst' ich jeden Tag

Klarchen Beigiß das, Brackenburg! Bergiß Dich selbst. Sprich mit von ihm! Ist's wahr? Ist er verur= theilt?

Brackenburg. Er ist's! Ich weiß es ganz genau. 10-

Klaichen. Und lebt noch?

Brackenburg Ia, er lebt noch.

Klarchen. Wie willst Du das versichern? — Die Thanner ermordet in der Nacht den Herrlichen! Vor allen der Augen verborgen fließt sein Blut. Aengstlich im Schlafe 155man liegt das betaubte Wolf und traumt von Nettung, traumt ihres ohnmachtigen Wunsches Crsullung, indeß unwillig über und, sein Geist die Welt verlaßt. Er ist dahin! — Tausche mich nicht! Dich nicht!

Brackenburg. Nein, gewiß, er lebt! 1. Und leiber, 20 es bereitet ber Spanier bem Bolfe, bas er zertieten will, ein finichterliches Schauspiel, gewaltsam jedes Berz, das nach Freiheit sich regt, auf ewig zu zerknischen. Le

Klarchen. Tahre fort und sprich gelassen auch mein Todesutheil aus! Ich wandle ben seligen Gefilden schon 250 jewe naher und naher, mir weht der Trost aus jenen Gegenden des Friedens schon heruber. Sag' an

Bracken burg. Ich konnt' es an ben Wachen merken, aus Reden, die bald da, bald dort stellen, daß auf dem Markte geheininisvoll ein Schreckniß zubereitet werde. Ich schlich durch 30 1 p. 2 c. Seitenwege, durch bekannte Gange nach meines Vettern Hause, und sah aus einem Hinterfenster nach dem Markte. — Es

wehten Fackeln in einem weiten Kreise spanischer Soldaten him und wieder. Ich schafte mein ungewohntes Auge, und keine wie der Nacht stieg mir ein schwarzes Gerust entgegen, geraumig, hoch, mir grauste vor dem Anblick Geschaftig
5 waren Biele rings umher bemuht, was noch von Holzwerk weiß und sichtbar war, mit schwarzem Luch einhullend zu verkleiden Die Treppen deckten sie zulezt auch schwarz, ich sah es wohl Sie schienen die Weihe eines graßlichen Opsers vorbereitend zu begehn Ein weißes Krucister, das durch die und in Nacht wie Silber blinkte, ward an der einen Seite hoch susparationusgesteckt. Ich sah, und sah die schreckliche Gewisheit immer gewisser Noch wantten Fackeln hie und da herum, allmahlich wichen sie und erloschen Auf einmal war die scheißliche Gebut der Nacht in ihrer Mutter Schooß zuruckgesehrt.

15 Klarchen Still, Brackenburg! Nun still! Laß diese Lulle auf meiner Seele ruhi. Berschwunden sind die Gespenster, und du, holde Nacht, leih' deinen Mantel der Erde, die in sich gahrt, sie tragt nicht langer die abscheuliche Last, reißt ihre tiesen Spalten grausend auf, und turricht das

20 Mordgezust hununter. Und tregend einen Engel seinbet der Gott, den ste Junk Beugen stiger Buth gesthändet bor best. Boten heiliger Beruhrung tosen sich Niegel und Bande, und er umgeest den Freund mit milbem Schimmer, er führt ihn ob duich die Nacht zur Freiheit sanft und ftill. Und auch mein 25 Weg geht heimlich in dieser Dunkelheit, ihm zu begegnen

Brackenburg (fie aufhaltenb) Mein Kind, wohin? Was wagft Du?

Klarchen Leise, Lieber, daß Niemand erwache, daß wir und selbst nicht wecken! Kennst Du dies Flaschen, 30 Brackenburg? Ich nahm Du's scherzend, als Du mit überseiltem Tod oft ungeduldig diohtest. — Und nun, mein Freund

Bradenburg In aller Beiligen Namen!-

Klarchen. Du hinberst nichts Tob ist mein Theil! Und gonne mir den sansten, schnellen Tod, den Du Dir selbst bereitetest Gieb mir Deine Hand!— Im Augenblick, da ich die dunkle Pforte eroffne, aus der kein Ruckweg ist, konnt's ich nit diesem Handedruck Dir sagen, wie sehr ich Dich gestebt, wie sehr ich Dich besammert. Mein Bruder starb mir jung, Dich wahlt' ich seine Stelle zu ersetzen Es widersprach Dein Herz, und qualte sich und nuch, verlangtest heiß und immer heißer, was Dir nicht beschieden war. Verzieh mir und led' to wohl! Laß nich Dich Bruder nennen! Es ist ein Name, der viel Namen in sich saßt. Nunm die letzte schone Blume der Scheidenden nitt treuem Herzen ab — ninum diesen Kuß! — Der Tod vereinigt Alles, Brackenburg, unß beim auch it will unde und ko

" Brackenburg. So laß mich mit Die sterben! Theile! Theile! Es ist genug, zwei Leben auszuloschen

Klarch en Bleib! Du sollst leben, Du kannst leben — Steh' meiner Mutter bei, die ohne dich in Ainuith sich verzehren wurde. Sei ihr, was ich ihr nicht mehr sein kann! 20 Lebt zusammen und beweint nich. Beweint das Baterland und den, der es allem eihalten konnte! Das heutige Gefollecht wird diesen Jammer nicht los, die Buth der Rache shake zhelbst vernag ihn nicht zu illgen Lebt, Ihr Aimen, die Zeit noch hin, die keine Zeit niehr ist. Seut steht die Welt 25 auf einmal still, es stockt ihr Kreislauf, und mein Bulk kerreike schreike felhagt kaum noch wenige Minuten. Leb' wohl!

Brackenburg. Diebe Du mit uns, wie wir fur Dich allein! Du tottest uns in dir, o leb' und leide. Wir wollen unzertrennlich Dir zu beiden Seiten stehn, und immer 30 achtsam soll die Liebe den schonsten Trost in ihren leben= animat digen Armen Dir bereiten. Sei unser! Unser! Ich barf nicht sagen, mein.

Klarchen. Leise, Biackenburg! Du fuhlst nicht, was Du iuhrst Wo Hoffnung Die erscheint, ist mir Verzweis= 5 lung

Brackenburg. Theile mit ben Lebenbigen bie Hoffnung! Verweil' am Rande des Abgrunds, schau' hinab und sieh auf uns zuruck.

Klarchen. Ich hab' uberwunden, ruf' mich nicht wieder 10 zum Streit.

Brackenburg. Du bist betaubt, gehullt in Nacht, suchst Du die Tiefe. Noch ist nicht zedes Licht erloschen, noch mancher Tag —

Alarchen. Weh! Ueber Dich Weh! Weh! Grausam 15 zerreißest Du den Vorhang von weinem Auge. Ia, er wurd grauen, der Tag! vergebens alle Nebel um sich ziehn ind wider Willen grauen! Kurchtsam schaut der Binger aus seinem Fenster, die Nacht laßt einen schwarzen Flecken zuruck — er schaut, und sinchterlich wachst im Lichte das Mord-20 gerust — Neu leibehd wendet das entweihte Gottesbild sein Vater auf Die Sonne wagt sich nicht Stunde nicht bezeichnen, in der er sterben soll Trage gehn die Zeiger ihren Weg, und eine Stunde nach der andern schlagt. Salt! Hung ist des Zeit! 25 Mich scheucht des Noorgens Alhnung in das Grab (Sie trut ans Fenster, als sahe sie sich um, und trust bezustlich)

Bradenburg Rlare! Rlare!

Klarchen (geht nach bem Tisch und truft das Wasser) Hier ist ber Rest! Ich locke Dich nicht nach. Thu', was Du 30 darst, leb' wohl. Losche diese Laupe still und ohne Zaudern! ich geh' zur Ruhe. Schleiche Dich sachte weg, ziehe die Thur nach Dir zu. Still! Wecke meine Mutter nicht! Geh', rette Dich! Rette Dich, wenn Du nicht mein Morber scheinen willst. (Ab)

Brackenburg Sie laßt mich zum letten Male wie immer D, konnte eine Menfchensele fuhlen, wie sie ein liebend Seiz zerreißen kann. Gie laft nich stehn, mir selber 5 uberlaffen, und Tob und Leben gift mir gleich verhaßt - Allein zu fterben '- Weint Ihr Liebenden! Rein harter Schicksal ift als meins! Sie theilt mit mir ben Tobestropfen, und schieft mich weg, von ihrer Seite weg! Sie zieht mich nach, und ftoft ins Leben mich zuruck. D Egmont, welch preiß= 10 wurdig Loos fallt Dir! Sie geht voran, ber Krang bes Siegs aus ihrer Sand ift Dein, fie bringt beit gangen Bininel entgegen! - Und foll ich folgen, wieder ftehn, den unauslbschlichen Neid in jene Wohnungen hinu= bertraren ? - Auf Erben ift fein Bleiben niehr fur mich, und 15 Soll' und Hunmel, beten gleiche Dual. Wie ware ber Bei= nichtung Schleckenshand bem Ungluckfeligen willfommen ! Brackenburg geht ab; bas Theater bleibt einige Bitt unwerandert Gine Mufit, Klaichens Ti bie Lampe, welche die Lampe, welche Brackenburg auszuloschen unigemal auf, bann 20 erlischt fie. Bald verwandelt fich ber Schauplat in bas

Gefangnıß.

Cgmont liegt schlafend auf bem Nuhebette Cs entsteht ein Geraffel mit Schlusseln, und die Thur thut sich auf Diener mit Fackeln treten herein; ihnen folgt Ferdinand, Albas Sohn, und Silva, 25 begleitet von Gewassieten Egmont fahrt aus dem Schlaf auf

Eg mont. Wer seid Ihr, die Ihr mir unfreundlich den Schlaf von den Augen schuttelt? Was kunden Eure trotzigen, unsichern Blicke mir an? Warum diesen suchterlichen Aufzug? Welchen Schieckenstraum kommt Ihr der halberwachten 30
Seele vorzulügen?

fundigen.

Egmont. Bringft Du ben Benter auch mit, es zu pollziehen?

Silva Beinimm es, fo wiift Du miffen, mas Deiner wartet !

5 Camont So ziemt es Euch und Eurem schandlichen Beginnen! In Nacht gebiutet und in Nacht vollführt. So mag diese freche That der Ungerechtigkeit sich verbergen! -Tritt fuhn hervor, ber Du bas Schwert verhullt unter bem Mantel tragft! Sier ift mein Saupt, das freiefte, das je die 10 Tyranner bom Rumpf geriffen.

Silva. Du irift! Was gerechte Richter beschließen, werden fle vorm Angesicht des Tages nicht verbergen.

Egmont. So ubersteigt die Frechheit jeden Begriff und Gebanken.

Silva (nummt einem Dabiftebenben bas Artheil ab, entfaltet ..Im N es und frest) und fraft besonderer von Seiner Majeftat Gewalt, alle feine Unterthanen, weß Standes fie feien, zugleich die Ritter bes goldnen Bliefes zu richten, erkennen wir — " pronounce und 20

Egmont. Kann die der Konig übertragen ?

"Erkennen wir, nach volgangiger genauer, ge= fetlicher Untersuchung, Dich Beinich Grafen Egmont, Bringen von Gaure, des Sochverraths schuldig, und sprechen das Ilr= theil daß Du mit bei Truhe des einbiechenden Morgens aus 25 bem Reiter auf ben Martt geführt, und bort born Angesicht des Wolfs zur Warnung aller Verrather mit dem Schwerte vom Leben zum Lobe gebracht werden folleft. Gegeben Bruffel am —" (Datum und Jahrzahl werden undentlich gelefen, fo daß fie . ber Buhoier nicht verfteht)

"Terdmand, Herzog von Alba, Worfiter bes Gerichts ber 3molfe."

Du weißt nun Dein Schicksal, es bleibt Du wenige Zeit, Dich drein zu eigeben, Dein Haus zu bestellen und von den Deinigen Abschied zu nehmen. to set one's housemender

Silva mit dem Gefolge geht ab Es bleibt Ferdinand und zwei Tackeln; das Theater ist maßig eileuchtet

Eg mont (hat eine Beile, in fich versenkt, ftille gestanden, und Silva, ohne sich umzusehen, abgehn laffen Gr glaubt fich allein und ba er bie Augen aufhebt, erblicft er Albas Sohn) Du ftehft und bleibst? Willft Du mein Ciftaunen, mein Entsetzen noch buich Deine Gegenwart vermehren? Willst Du noch etwa die 10 willkommene Botschaft Deinem Bater bringen, daß ich un= maunlich verzweiste? Geh! Sag' ihnt, fag' ihnt, daß er weder unch noch die Welt belugt Ihm, dem Ruhmsuch= tigen, wird man es eift hinter ben Schultern leife lispeln, bann laut und lauter fagen, und wenn er einst von diesem 15 Gipfel herabsteigt, werden taufend Stimmen es ihm entgegen Nicht das Wohl des Staats, nicht die Wurde des Konigs, nicht die Rube der Provinzen haben ihn hierher gebracht. Um fein felbst willen hat er Rrieg gerathen, daß ber Krieger um Kriege gelte Er hat biese ungeheure Ber= 20 wirning erregt, damit man feiner bedurfe. Und ich falle ein Opfer feines niedrigen Saffes, feines kleinlichen Neibes. Ja, ich weiß es, und ich barf es fagen, der Sterbende, der todtlich Verwundete fann es fagen Mich hat der Eingebildete beneibet, nuch wegzutilgen hat er lange gesonnen und gebacht 25 Schon bamals, als wu, noch junger, mit Wurfeln spielten, und die Saufen Golbes, einer nach dem andein, bon feiner Seite zu mit herubereilten, ba ftand er grimmig, log Gelaffen= beit, und unnerlich verzehrte ihn die Aergerniff, mehr über mein Gluck, als uber seinen Berluft. Noch erinnere ich 30 mich bes funkelnden Blicks, ber verratherischen Blaffe, als

wir an einem offentlichen Veste vor vielen tausend Menschen um die Wette schossen. Er forderte nich auf, und beide Nationen standen, die Spanier, die Niederlander wetteten und wunschten. Ich uberwand ihn, seine Kugel irrte, die 5 meine traf, ein lauter Freudenschrei der Meinigen duichbrach die Luft. Nun trifft mich sein Geschoß. Sag' ihm, daß ich's weiß, daß ich ihn kenne, daß die Welt zede Siegeßzeichen verachtet, die ein kleiner Geist erschleichend sich aufrichtet. Und Du, wenn einem Sohne moglich ist, von der Sitte des 10 Vaters zu weichen, übe beizeiten die Scham, indem Du Dich fur den schamst, den Du geine von ganzem Geizen verehren michtest!

Terbinand Ich hore Dich an, ohne Dich zu untersbrechen! Deine Borwurfe laften wie Keulschlage auf einen 25 Helm, ich suhle die Erschutterung, aber ich bin bewaffnet Du triffft nich, Du verwundest nich nicht, suhlbar ist nitt allein der Schnietz, der nier den Busen zerreißt. Wehe nier! Wehe! Bu einem solchen Anblick bin ich ausgewachsen, zu einem solchen Schauspiele bin ich gesendet!

Eg m on t. Du brichst in Klagen aus? Was ruhrt, was bekummert Dich? Ist es eine spate Reue, daß Du der schand-lichen Verschworung Deinen Dienst geliehen? Du bist so jung, und haft ein gluckliches Ansehn. Du warst so zutraulich, so sieunblich gegen mich So jang' ich Dich sah, war ich nut 25 Deinem Vater versöhnik. Und eben so verstellt, verstellter als er, lockst Du mich in das Netz Du bist der Abschenliche! Wer ihm traut, mag er es auf seine Gesahr thun, aber wer suchtete Gesahr, Dir zu vertrauen? Geh! Geh! Raube mit nicht die wenigen Augenblicke! Geh, daß ich mich sammle, 30 die Welt, und Dich zuerst, vergesse!—

Ferbinand. Was soll ich Dir sagen? Ich stehe und sehe Dich an, und sehe Dich nicht, und fuhle mich nicht. Soll

ich auch entiduloigen? Soll ich Du versichern, baß ich erft ipat, eist ganz zulegt bes Baters Absichten erfuht, baß ich als ein gezuungenes, ein lebloses Wertzeug seines Willens bandelte? Was fruchter i, welche Meinung Du von nu haben magit? Du bist verloren, und ich Unglucklicher stehe nur 5 ba, um Dir zu versichern, um Dich zu bezannern.

Egmont Welche sonderbare Stimme, welch ein uner natetet Troft begegnet mir auf bem Wege zum Grabe? Du, Sobin meines eisten, meines fast einzigen Teinbes, Du betauerst nuch, Du bist nicht unter meinen Morbern? Sage, 10 red! Tur wen soll ich dich halten?

Ferdinand Grausamer Nater! Ja, ich erfenne Dich in diesem Beselle Du kanntest mein Gerz, meine Gesinnung, die Du so oft als Erbiheil einer zaitlichen Mutter schaltest. Mich dir gleich zu bilden, sandtest Du mich hierber. Diesen is Mann am Mande des gahnenden Grabes, in der Gewalt eines willkurlichen Todes zu sehen zwingst Du mich, daß ich den tiessten Schmerz empfinde, daß ich taub gegen alles Schicksal, daß ich unempfindlich werde, es geschehe mir was wolle.

Egmont. Ich erstaune' Tasse Dich! Stehe, rebe wie ein Mann.

Ferdinand D daß ich ein Weib ware! Daß man mir fagen konnte Was ruhrt Dich? Was sicht Dich an? Sage "mir ein großeres, ein ungeheureres Uebel, mache mich zum 25 Zeugen einer schrecklichern That, ich will Dir banken, ich will sagen. Es war nichts.

Cgmont. Du verlierst Dich. Wo bist Du?

Ferdinand. Lag biese Leidenschaft rasen, lag mich los= gebunden klagen! Ich will nicht standhaft scheinen, wenn 30. Illes in mir zumsammenblicht. Dich soll ich hier sehn?—

I.

Dich? — Es ist entsetzlich! Du verstehst nuch nicht! Und sollst Du mich verstehen? Egmont! Egmont! (Ihm um ben Hals fallend)

Cgmont. Lose mir das Geheimmig!

Terbinand. Rem Geheimniß

Cgmont. Wie bewegt Dich so tief das Schicksal eines fremden Mannes?

Terdinand Nicht fremd! Du bist mir nicht fremd Dem Name war's, der mir in meiner eisten Jugend gleich io einem Stern des Himmels entgegenleuchtete. Wie oft hab', ich nach Dir gehoicht, gestagt! Des Kindes Hoffnung ist der Jungling, des Junglings der Mann. So bist Du von mit her geschritten, immer vor, und ohne Neid sah ich Dich vor, und schiett Dir nach, und sohne Neid sah ich Dich vor, und schiett Dir nach, und sohne nein Herz slog Dir entgegen. Dich hatt' ich mit bestimmt, und wahlte Dich ausst Neue, da ich Dich sah. Nun hosst ich erst mit Dir zu sein, mit Dir zu seben, Dich zu salssnen, Dich zu salssnen, Dich zu salssnen, die Die Dich hier!

20 Egmont. Mein Freund, wenn es Die wohl thun kann, so nimm die Neusscherung, daß im eisten Augenblick mein Gemuth Die entgegenkam! 'Und hore mich! Laß und ein auhiges Wort unter einander wechseln! Sage mit Ift es der strenge, ernste Wille Deines Vaters, nich 25 zu tobten?

Ferbinand. Er ift's

Egmont. Dieses Itriheil ware nicht ein leeres Schreckbild, mich zu angstigen, durch Furcht und Drohung zu strasen, mich zu erniedrigen, und dann mit koniglicher Gnade mich 30 wieder aufzuheben?

Terbinand. Rein, ach leiber nein! Anfangs fchmeichelte

ich mir selbst mit dieser ausweichenden Hoffnung, und schon da empfand ich Angst und Schmerz, Dich in diesem Zustande zu sehen Nun ist es wirklich, ist gewiß Nein, ich regiere nuch nicht. Wer giebt mir eine Hulse, wer einen Rath, dem Unvermeidlichen zu entgehen?

Egmont So hore mich! Wenn Deine Seele so ge= waltsam bringt, mich zu retten, wenn Du die Uebermacht verabscheuft, die mich gesesselt halt, so rette mich! Die Augenblicke sind kostbar Du bist des Allgewaltigen Sohn, und selbst gewaltig — Laß und entsliehen! Ich kenne die 10 Wege, die Mittel konnen Dir nicht inskrift sin kenne die 10 Wege, die Mittel konnen Dir nicht inskrift sin Nur diese Mauern, nur wenige Meilen inskrift in don-meinen Treunden Lose biese Bande, bringe mich zu ihnen und set unser. Gewiß, der Konig dankt Dir dereinst nieme Nettung Jeht ist ein überrascht, und vielleicht ist ihm Alles unbekannt 15 Dein Bater wagt, und die Majestat niuß das Geschehene billigen, wenn ste sich auch davor entsehet Dir dentst 2 D benke mir den Weg der Freiheit auß! Sprich und nahre die Hoffnung der lebendigen Seele!

Ferdinand. Schweig, o schweige! Du vermehrst mit 20 jedem Worte meine Berzweislung Ger ist kein Ausweg, kein Rath, keine Flucht — Das qualt mich, das greift und kaßt mir wie mit Klauen die Brust Jch habe selbst das Netz zusammengezogen, ich keine die king in habe selbst das Netz zusammengezogen, ich keine die king in Ling Congress ich sich eine Ruhnheit, jeder Ling in Ling in Congress ich siche mich mit Die und mit allen Andern gefestelt. Winde ich klagen, hatte ich nicht Alles versucht? Zu seinen Kußen habe ich gelegen, geredet und gedeten. Er schiefte mich hierhei, um Alles, was von Lebenslust und Frende mit nur sebt, in diesem Alugenblicke zu zersteren.

Camont Und feine Rettung?

Ferdinand. Reine!

Cgmont (mit dem Kuße stampsend) Keine Rettung!—— Sußes Leben! Schone freundliche Gewohnheit des Daseins und Wirfens, von Dir soll ich scheiden, so ge= 5 lassen schlacht, unter dent Gerausch der Waffen, in der Zeistreuung des Getummels giebst Du mit ein kluchtiges Lebewohl, Du nummst keinen eiligen Abschied, verfurzest nicht den Augenblick der Tren= nung Ich soll Deine Hand fassen, Dit noch einmal in die Uugen sehn, Deine Schone, Deinen Werth recht lebhaft fühlen, und dann mich entschlossen lostreißen und sagen Fahre hin!

Ferdinand Und ich soll daneben stehn, zusehn, Dich nicht halten, nicht hindern konnen! Dwelche Stimme reichte 15 zur Klage! Welches Herz stosse nicht aus seinen Banden vor diesem Tammer?

Egmont. Taffe bich!

Terbinand. Du kannst Dich sassen, Du kannst entsagen, ten schweren Schritt an der Sand der Nothwendigkeit helden20 maßig gehn Was kann ich? Was soll ich? Du überwindest Dich selbst und uns, Du überstehst, ich überlebe Dich und mich selbst. Bei der Treude des Mahls hab' ich mein Licht, im Getummel der Schlacht meine Jahne verloren. Schalfverworien, trub' schent mir die Zukunst.

25 Egmont Junger Freund, den ich durch ein sonderbaies Schickfal zugleich gewinne und verliere, der fur nich die Todesschmerzen empfindet, fur nich leidet, sieh nich in diesen Augenblicken an, du verlierst nich nicht. War dir niem Leben ein Spiegel, in welchen Du Dich gerne betrachtetest, 30 so sei es auch niem Tod Die Menschen sind nicht nur zus saumen, wenn sie beisammen sind, auch der Entseinte, der

Abgeschiedne lebt uns Sch lebe Dir und habe mur genug gelebt Cines jeden Tages hab' ich mich gesieut, an jedem Tage mit rascher Wirfung meine Pflicht gethan, wie mein Gewissen min sie zeigte Nun endigt sich das Leben, wie es sich fruher, suher, schon auf dem Sande von Gravelingen 5 hatte endigen sonnen. Ich hore auf zu leben, aber ich habe geseht. So leb' auch Du, mein Freund, gein und mit Lust, und schene den Tod nicht

Ferdinand. Du hattest Dich sur und erhalten konnen, eihalten sollen Du hast Dich selber getodtet Oft hort' ich, 10 wenn kluge Manner über Dich sprachen, seindselige, wohl= wollende, sie stritten lang' über Deinen Werth, doch endlich vereinigten, sie sich, Keiner wagt' es zu leignen, Ieder geständ Ia, er wandelt einen gesahlichen Weg. — Wie oft wunssch' ich, Dich warnen zu konnen! Hattest Du denn 15 keine Freunde?

Egmont Ich war gewaint

Ferdinand Und wie ich punktweise alle diese Beschuldigungen wieder in der Anklage sand, und Deine Anksworten! Gut genug, Dich zu entschuldigen, nicht triftig 20 genug, Dich von der Schuld zu befreien —

Egmont Dies fei bei Seite gelegt. Es glaubt bei Mensch sein Leben zu leiten, sich selbst zu suhren, und sein Inneistes wird unwiderstehlich nach seinem Schicksale gezogen Laß uns dauber nicht finnen, dieser Gedanken entschlag' ich 25 mich leicht — schweier der Soige sur dieses Land, doch auch dasur wird gesorgt sein Kann mein Blut sur Liele sließen, niemem Bolke Triebe bringen, so sließt es willig Leider wird's nicht so werden Doch es ziemt dem Menschen, nicht niehr zu hindeln, wo er nicht mehr wirlen soll Kannst Du 30 die verderbende Gewalt Deines Baters aufhalten, lenken, so thu's Wer wild das konnen? — Leb' wohl!

Verdinand. Ich fann nicht gehn.

Egmont. Lagmeine Leute Dir aufs beste empfohlen sein! Ich habe gute Menschen zu Dienein — daß ste nicht zerstreut, nicht unglucklich werden! Wie steht es um Richard, 5 meinen Schreiber?

Ferdinand Er ift Dir vorangegangen Sie haben ihn als Mitschuldigen bes Hochverraths enthauptet.

Anne Seele! - Noch Eins, und bann leb'

wohl, ich fann nicht mehr Was auch den Geist gewaltsamt 10 beschaftigt, fordert die Natin zuletzt doch unwiderstehlich ihre Nechte, und wie ein Kind, uniwunden von der Schlange, des erquickenden Schlafs genießt, so legt der Nude sich noch einmal vor der Psoite des Todes nieder und ruht tief aus, als ob. er einen weiten Weg zu wandern hatte — Noch Cins — . 15 Ich feine ein Nadchen, Du wirst sie nicht verachten, weil sie wieln war Nun ich sie Dir empfehle, sterb' ich ruhig Du bist ein edler Mann, ein Weih, das den findet, ist geborgen

Teidirand Der muntre Greis, ber Euch zu Pferbe

Cgmont. Derfelbe

Eamont.

Terdinand. Er lebt, er ift fier

Lebt mein olter Adolph? Ift er frei?

Egmont Crweiß ihre Wohnung, laß Dich von ihm fuhren, und lohn' ihm his an fein Ende, daß er Dir den 25 Weg zu diesem Kleisiode geigt. — Leb' wohl!

Terbinand. Ich gehe nicht

Eg mont (ihn nach der Thure drangend) Leb' wohl!

Terdinand. O lag mich noch!

Egmont. Freund, feinen Abschied.

30 (Ci beglettet Ferdinanden bis an die Thur und reißt fich bort von ihm los. Ferdinand, betandt, entfernt sich eilend) Egmont (allein) Feinbfeliger Mann! Du glaubtest nicht, mur diese Wohlthat durch Deinen Sohn zu erzeigen. Durch ihn bin ich der Sorgen los und der Schneizen, der Kurcht und zedes angstlichen Gefühls. Sanft und drungend fordert die Natur ihren letzten Zoll. Es ist vorbei, es ist beschlossen! 5 Und was die letzte Nacht mich ungewiß auf meinem Lager wachend hielt, das schlafert nun mit unbezwinglicher Gewißheit meine Sinnen ein.

Er fest sich aufs Nuhebett Musik

Sußer Schlaf! Du kommft, wie ein reines Gluck, unge- 10 beten, unersleht, am willigsten Du losest die Knoten ber ftrengen Gedanken, vermischeft alle Bilder der Freude und des Schmerzes, ungehindert sließt der Kreis innerer Harmonien, und eingehullt in gefalligen Wahnstinn, versinken wir und horen auf zu sein.

(Ci entschlaft, Die Mufik begleitet feinen Schlummer Sinter feinem Lager scheint fich bie Mauer zu eroffnen, eine glanzende Erscheinung zeigt fich Die Freiheit in himmilischem Gewande, von einer Klacheit umfloffen, ruht auf einer Wolte Gie hat bie Buge von Rlaichen, und neigt fich gegen den schlafenden Selben Sie bruckt eine bebauernde 20 Empfindung aus, fie scheint ihn zu beklagen Bald faßt fie fich, und mit aufmunteinder Gebeide zeigt fie ihm bas Bundel Bfeile, bann ben Stab nut bem Gute Sie heißt ihn fich fein, und indem fie ihm andeutet, daß fein Tod den Provinzen die Tretheit verschaffen werde, erkennt fie ihn als Sieger und reicht ihm einen Loibeerfrang Wie fie 25 fich mit dem Rrange bem hanpte nabet, macht Camont eine Bewegung. wie einer, der fich im Schlafe regt, beigistalt, daß er mit dem Geficht aufwarts gegen fie liegt Gie halt ben Rrang uber feinem Saupte schwebend man hort gang von wertem eine friegerische Musik von Tiommeln und Pfeifen bei bem leifesten Laut beifelben verfchwindet 30 Die Erscheinung Der Schall wird ftarfer Cgmont erwacht, bas Gefanguiß wird vom Morgen maßig erhellt Sime erfte Bewegung tft, nach dem Saupte zu greifen er fteht auf und fieht fich um, indem er die Sand auf bem Sampte behalt)

Werschwunden ist ber Kranz! Du schones Bild, das Licht 35

Sales of the second

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bes Tages hat Dich verscheuchet! Ia, sie waren's, sie waien vereint, die beiden sußesten Freuden meines Heizens. Die gottliche Freiheit, von meiner Gestebten borgte sie die Gestalt, das reizende Madchen kleidete sich in der Freundin himmslisches Gewand. In einem einsten Augenblick erscheinen sie vereinigt, ernster als lieblich Mit blutbesteckten Sohlen trat sie vor mir auf, die wehenden Falten des Saumes mit Blut besteckt Es war mein Blut und vieler Edsen Blut. Neun, es ward nicht umsonst vergossen Schreitet durch! Braves Bolk!

10 Die Siegesgottin suhrt Dich an! Und wie das Meer duich Eure Danime bricht, so biecht, so reißt den Wall der Thianner zusammen, und schwemmt ersausend sie von ihrem Grunde, den sie sich annaßt, weg!

Trommeln naher

15 Horch! Horch! Wie oft rief mich dieser Schall zum freien Schritt nach dem Felde des Streits und des Siegs! Wie munter traten die Gefahrten auf der gefahllichen, zuhmlichen Bahn! Auch ich schreite einem ehrenvollen Tode aus diesem Kerker entgegen, ich steibe für die Reiheit, sur die ich lebte 20 und socht, und der ich nuch zeht leidend opfre.

Der Hinteiginnd wird mit einer Neihe spanischer Solbaten besetzt, welche Hellebarden tragen

Ia, fuhrt sie nur zusammen! Schließt Eure Reihen, Ihr schreckt much nicht Ich bin gewohnt, vor Speeren gegen 25 Speere zu stehen, und, rings umgeben von dem drohenden Tod, das muthige Leben nur doppelt rasch zu suhlen.

Trommeln

Dich schließt ber Teinb von allen Seiten ein! Es blinken Schweiter, Freunde, hobern Muth! Im Rucken habt ihr 30 Cltern, Weiber, Kinder! (Auf die Wache zeigend)

Und diese treibt ein hohles Wort des Seirscheis, nicht ihr Gemuth Schutt Cure Guter ! Und Cuei Liebstes zu erretten, faut freudig, wie ich Cuch ein Beispiel gebe

(Trommeln Wie er auf die Wache los und auf die Huttethur zu- 5 geht, fallt der Worhang, die Musik fallt ein und schließt mit einer Stegessymphonic das Stuck)

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# NOTES.

# Cifter Aufzug

P 5, l 2 Aumbuntificher, 'cross-bow shooting' The etymology of the word Aumbunt, which was first used in the twelfth century, is not quite settled. Some consider it as a genuine German expression formed from the word Aum, 'arm,' and Bunt, 'breast,' or the Old High German punt, 'spht,' 'rent,' whilst other philologists, including Jacob Gimm, classify it among those expressions which, according to their present form, seem to be derived from German roots, but which are in fact phonetic corruptions of foreign words, they derive Aumbunt from the Middle Latin 'arcubalista,' 'arbalista,' the Modern French 'arbalête' The culcumstance that Aumbunt was first used in the masculine and neuter gender would seem to speak against its purely German origin

1 6 Min is here an expletive, hin may be rendered by

'on,' or 'away'

Transl dag wub, 'that there be an end of it'-Mile, used

as a predicate, denotes 'gone,' 'finished,' 'at an end'

1.7 In the clause unjust un's both undst the present tense is used for the future in order to express the certainty which the speaker feels that his competitors will not deprive him of the prize

1 8 The expression Eage, in conjunction with a possessive pronoun, is frequently used in German to denote 'the whole litetime of a man'. Here the accusative is used, duration of time being expressed in German, as is the case in Greek,

and commonly also in Latin, by the accusative

Unb fo wat' th, &c In German the conditional mood is employed, since the clause states an inference from an assumption or supposition which is understood

1 10 Dazu, 'to boot' The shooting-match was one which is called in German ein Romgesschießen, 1 e he who was the most successful shot was 'king of the year among the maiksmen' (Schutzenfoma)

I II The idiomatic expression buful auth may here be rendered by 'but then,' to be placed at the beginning of the clause Jetter intimates that Soest is to pay double scot, i e twice the amount which each of them has to contribute individually to the general score Cp p 6, l 14

l 14 Gemand etwas abhandeln, 'to buy something of any one' l 15 So stiengthens here the term lange If translated at

ail, it should be placed before the latter word

l 16 Hehlt with stands here for wenn ith hills. The conjunction wenn, 'if,' may be omitted in hypothetical clauses, in which case the latter are put in an inverted form. When the hypothetical clauses are followed by a principal clause, as in the present instance, the latter is generally introduced by the adverb [0, 'then,' which, however, need not always be expressed in English. The mode of expression just pointed out, which makes hypothetical clauses in German so very emphatic and concise, forms an important feature in the construction of the German sentence, and deserves the full attention of the student

Sit's will here best be rendered by the future of the verb

to be

l 18 Diein (contracted from balein) when, 'to have a word in the matter' Soest is aware that Buyck is a good shot, and

is afiaid that he will carry off the prize

l 20 The Butschmeister, or Butschmeister, was a kind of 'harlequin' or 'bustoon marker' at shooting-matches, who, as Adelung explains, 'pointed out the spot which had been hit in the target, and made the spectators laugh by his gestures with his sword of lath' (Butsche, or Butsche). He used to bow in a comical manner to the successful marksman, and it is to this that Buyck alludes in saying Reviews, which may be rendered by 'make your bow'

l 23 The Latin expression 'vivat' (cp the Fiench 'vive'), from 'viveie,' to live, may be rendered by 'long live,' whether it stands by itself or is connected with the adjective hoth; but hoth alone may also be rendered by 'long live'

(or 'hurrah'), the verb leben being understood

P 6, l 1 Maie Meister, &c The adverb 'even' should be

supplied in this clause

1 5 Daß ich euch fage! The conjunction daß is sometimes used in popular language in exclamations. In the present instance  $\mathfrak{dag}$   $\mbox{ fage may be rendered by 'let me tell you!'}$ 

1 6 The familial expression we tit's stands here for was tit, or was able os, what is the matter?

1 9 Gigen here signifies 'compared with'

Schlucter denotes generally 'a wretch,' 'pitiable fellow,' say

here 'bungle1'

I to There is no single and full equivalent in English for the adverb crit in the sense in which it occurs here. It makes the verb more emphatic, corresponding somewhat to the Latin 'vero' Buyck wishes to say that Egmont is a better marksman than he himself when using the crossbow, but that with a gun Egmont is sure (cift) to hit better than any one else in the world. In English, the emphasis might here be obtained by placing the conjunction 'and' at the beginning of the clause. On Egmont's skill in shocting, and on the high esteem in which this art was held by the Flemish, see the note to p 9, 1 15

l 12 Antegen (a gun, &c), 'to level,' immer rein smar; ges schossen, it he always shoots into the black, say, 'and the bull'seeye is made'. The adverb tem is here synonymous with ganglich, wellstandig, 'completely,' and the past participle geschossen is used to denote the certainty of the action, viz as soon as

he levels he has already made a bull's-eye

1 15 Nahien, 'to maintain,' 'to support' Nechning, here 'charge'

1 17 Ausmachen is heie synonymous with festschen, bestimmen,

'to settle'

1 18 Turn fromb by our Frombo. The nonical remark contained in this speech is quite appropriate in the mouth of Buyck, a staunch partisan of Egmont, who was one of the chief antagonists of the existing foleign rule

l 20 The adverb a has in similar phrases the force of

'I declare,' 'why,' &c

l 21 Doch here strengthens the assertion It may be omitted in English, und (affen, lit 'leave them to us,' i e respect them

1 23 Gastinen, 'to' entertain,' to treat, from Gast, 'guest,' is one of the few purely Teutonic verbs which end in the foreign termination uen (ween)

Will night haben, 'does not wish,' 'will not allow'

1 24 Zusummenlegen, here to club together'

1 26 Dine Bulling (from the Latin 'praejudicium'), without prejudice to the established custom, i e saving, or reserving our rights Ruysum intimates that he wishes to consider Buyck's offer as an exceptional case only.

1 27 Splendid (with the accent upon the 1), from the Latin 'splendidus,' is used in colloquial language for freigebig, 'liberal,' 'munificent'

Es laufen zu lassen wo es gebeiht, is a popular phrase expressing

'to spend freely when prosperous'

- Wolf, 'to the health of your' The now l 30 Ihro obsolete form This is the Old High German iro, the genitive and dative of the feminine pronoun si (see) It was formerly used in official style more particularly in connection with titles
- P 7, 1 I Jetter, the malcontent tailor, is anxious to remove the ambiguity of which the general form Mio admits, which may signify both 'your' and 'his' He therefore substitutes the more distinct Cine for Ihro

1 2 Don Beigen should here be rendered by 'heartily,' and

in the next line but one by 'from his heart'

- Dody so settle foll, 'must be so' 1 5 Ruysum, being deaf, did not understand the drift of Soest's speech, and seems to think that he has brought out another toast Soest, however, merely adds the name of the king by way of explanation, without repeating his speech, which circumstance only increases the amusing misunderstanding
- 1 7 Kings and princes are addressed by the epithet afferguadigit, 'most gracious,' in which expression the superlative is strengthened by aller, the genitive of all

l 11 The verb treften, 'to comfort,' denotes, when referring to a deceased person, 'to bless,' 'to have mercy on his soul,'

both in biblical and popular language

l 12 Gibboben, earth, denotes 'the whole world,' corresponding to the Latin 'oibis terrarum' Charles V was the most powerful potentate of his times, and the saying that 'the sun never set in his dominions,' is well known Strada (tom 1 p 10), in speaking of his power, says 'that grant who boasted that he had extended his hands beyond the Pillais of Hercules' (Ille gigas, qui Herculeos ultra terminos extendisse manus gloriabatur,) which is an allusion to the Emperor's device, consisting of the Pillais of Heicules and the motto of plus ultra, 1 e 'and beyond that'

Such need not be translated here. It is what is called in grammatical terminology the ethical dative, 'dativus ethicus,' and is used to denote an individual interest in the persons who are affected by certain occurrences This kind of dative, which is more particularly used with pronouns, occurs very

often in German, and deserves great attention.

1 13 Wenn er Euch begegnete, &c Goethe has here sketched the characters of Charles V and his son Philip II, in accordance with a parallel which Strada draws between the two sovereigns He says (1 p 66) 'For the Emperor, who was of easy access, and to whom one could speak without difficulty, behaved like a private person, being everywhere confident in his own majesty And he was so versatile in everything, and his mind so pliant, that he easily assumed foreign habits, so that he was not less a German with the Germans, or an Italian with the Italians, or a Spaniard with the Spaniards than he was a Fleming with the Flemings Philip, however, was, and showed himself to be in everything, a thorough Spaniard He spoke little, and only in Spanish, he showed himself rarely in public, and seemed to aspire to veneration by retirement He changed nothing in his apparel and pomp which he had brought with him from Spain All this, however, was interpreted by the people, whose minds were already excited, as pride and contempt, they being disgusted by that very difference of manners' (Nam Gaesar aditu facilis alloquioque, privatum in modum demittebat se, securus ubique Majestatis Atque ut erat versatili ad omnia pariter ingenio, mores exteros ita induebat, ut non minus cum Germanis Germanum agel et, Italumque cum Italis, aut cum Hispanis Hispanum, quam Belgis suis se Belgam praestaret Philippus contra, et esse et videri omnibus Hispanus, parce loqui, nec nisi Hispanice, publico libentur abstinere, et quasi ex abdito venei ationem intendere de vestitu, deque cetero cultu, quem attulerat ab Hispania, nibil immutare Id vero commotis semel animis, superbia et contemptus habebatur, perinde quasi ea morum diversitate ipsi fastidirentur)

1 17 It is a historical fact that the Netherlanders wept at the abdication of Charles V In describing the abdication scene, Stiada reports (1 p 7) 'With tears in his eyes, he paused a moment, and he drew abundant tears from those who were present' (Subortis lacrymis substitit ex eorumque, qui aderant, oculis ubertim lacrymas expressit) And Motley says, in speaking of the same proceeding 'Sobs were heard through every portion of the hall, and tears poured profusely from every eye The Fleece Knights on the platform, and the burghers in the background, were all melted with the same emotion' (1 p 108)

1 18 Regiment is here used in the sense of Regiering

l 25 In sketching the character of the Netherlanders Strada says 'The same kind of feeling they entertain with reference to injuries they have received, they speedily forget them, unless they see themselves despised as persons who easily put up with anything, then, indeed, they are quite implacable in their anger' (Eundem adversus injurias sensum esse, quarum memoria cito animum exuunt, nisi si contemni se videant, tamquam ex facili tolerantes, tunc enimvero implacabiliter excandescere) De Bello Belgico, 1 D 26

1 29 Semuth is a collective term formed from Muth (cp the English 'mood'), which was primarily used to express the intellectual power of volition, affection, &c, in general, and also the temporary state of the mind. The expression Semuth has a very comprehensive meaning, here it may be rendered

by 'affection'

1 32 There are several passages in Strada which refer to Egmont's popularity. In speaking of the fervent wish of the Flemish to see him appointed their Regent, he says (1 p 33) 'He had, too, an innate friendliness, and that rare quality, a popularity which did not detract from the dignity of his nobility.' (Accedebat innata viri comitas et (quod varum est) innovia nobilitati popularitas.) In discussing the judgment of the people about Alva, the same author uses the words (ibid p 326) 'The people, however, either from hatred against Alva, or from love towards Egmont' (Populus tamen, sive ev odio in Albanum, sive in Egmontium amore, &c) And again, in describing the effect which his execution had on the people, he states (ibid 1 p 328) 'He was beloved by all' (In omnum amoribus erat)

P 8, l r Semand auf ben Sanben hagen, lit 'to carry any one on one's hands,' is a figure of speech for 'to treat any one most tenderly,' to bestow upon any one affection and admiration' The Latin equivalent for that phrase is actually used by Strada in describing Egmont's popularity, viz Erat m oculis . Belgarum, comes Egmontus (Cp p 134, note to l 15) In the present instance, however, a literal translation will be preferable, because the phrase is put in the conditional mood, only, to make the English version more emphatic, the adverb 'actually' might be inserted before

'carry'

Semant etwas anjehen, signifies 'to perceive something by looking at any one' Here man thin anjieht may be rendered by 'one can read in his face,' or 'one need only look at him to see,' &c.

1 2 Das siese Leben, 'joyousness' The adjective sies is used

to denote 'lively,' 'gay,' 'sprightly,' as well as 'free

1 3 Gute Metnung, here 'kindly feeling' The expression Metnung was formerly also used for 'affection,' 'love,' &c.

1 5 The phrase Jemand seben saffen, used in a convivial sense,

denotes 'to drink the health of any one'

The impersonal phrase, es if an inu, end, &c, signifies 'it is my, your turn,' 'it is for me, for you,' &c Cp the French 'c'est à mor, à yous,' &c

1 8 Cp the note to p 5, 1 23

1 9 The battle of Saint Quentin was fought on Aug 10, 1557, between the forces and allies of Philip II, mainly consisting of Englishmen, Germans, and Spaniards, and the army of Henry II of France The French were totally defeated, chiefly through the gallantry and promptness of Egmont The spelling Quintin, instead of Quentin, has been adopted by Goethe from Strada

I 15 General our Bels (more usually our bie haut) becomen, is an idiomatic phrase for 'to shoot,' 'to file at any one' Translate hab'—general, by 'still I fired one more shot at the French' The form general for general is here very appropriate in the mouth of the speaker, but the more usual form

is aebiannt

I 17 Da ging's fulfd, 'there was brisk work' The town of Gravelines is situated near the sea-shore and the river Aa, about midway between Calais and Dunkirk The armies of Philip II under Egmont, and of Henry II under Marshal de Theimes, met near that place on 13th July, 1558, and a sangumary battle ensued, which resulted in the total defeat of the French The main onset was made by Egmont and his light cavalry, but the final victory was also owing to the Germans, who turned the left flank of the enemy, when the English made their opportune and effective appearance.

1 18 Brennen und sengen, lit 'to burn and singe,' is used as

a general term for 'to lay waste by fire'

The term \( \mathbb{Malfth} \) denotes all nations of \( Romance \) origin, but is now more particularly used with reference to Italians only. As a rule, the word \( \mathbb{Malfth} \) may be rendered by the general term 'foreign', but when referring to a particular Romance nationality, it should be translated by the corresponding proper name. In the present scene it is always applied to the French. As to the etymology of \( \mathbb{Malfth} \), some derive it from the Old High German 'Wal(a)h,' i.e. 'foreign,' which word is again traced to the Latin 'Gallus'; whilst others look for its origin in the Sanskrit 'Mlechha,' which denotes a person who talks indistinctly, in the same way as the Greeks called the barbarians "Ay\(\lambda\sigma\sigma\sigma\lambda\sigma\sigma\sigma\lambda\sigma\si

l 19 The country was mercilessly ravaged by the troops

under Marshal de Thermes, whom Strada describes (1 p 20) as 'an old general who plundered and ravaged manitime Flanders' (veterem belli ducem, Flandinae maritima praedis incendusque vexantem)

Acr

l. 20 Gaubfest, i e 'having a strong hand or fist,' corresponds to the English familiar expression 'strong-fisted' ຜູ້ແຜ່ເຄ

wider, rather unusual for widerstanden

l 21 Das Maul verzerren is the vulgar form for den Mund or das Gesicht verzerren, to 'make wry faces.'

1 22 Buffen, here 'to waver'

Il 22, 23 Da mub Egmont bus Pfeib, &c The proper name 'Egmont' stands here in the dative case, in accordance with the idiomatic peculiarity of the German language to use, in instances similar to the piesent, the dative of a noun, instead of the possessive case. That Egmont's horse was shot under him at the commencement of the battle is mentioned by Meteren (1 21), whose account Goethe followed closely in the first part of his description of the battle, the second part is based on the account given by Strada

1 24 The adverbs humber, herefore, correspond here to the English 'backwards and torwards,' in which 'backwards' is the equivalent for hember (cp the Latin 'ultro citroque'). The expression is here used to denote the doubtful state of the battle in its first stage, as will be seen faither on from the de-

scription of the battle by Strada

Mann fin Mann, &c The prepositions fin, gigen and mit, which are to be rendered here by 'to,' are in German appropriately varied in accordance with the character of the respective combatants in the hand-to-hand conflict. It may be of some interest to know that the first two prepositions occur in the same combinations in the original Dutch account of Meteren, viz 'Man vor Man, Peerden teghen Peerden'

l 25 Min hin is here synonymous with längs, along It was low tide—of which circumstance Marshal de Thermes intended to avail himself to make his escape—and the fight

took place along the broad sands towards Calais

1 26 We give here, at once, the principal points of Strada's description of the battle, which Goethe has adapted in so masterly a manner to his purpose 'For after the two veteran armies had been fighting for a while with doubtful issue, an unexpected event entirely destroyed the French army, which was then beginning to waver. Ten English vessels were by chance sailing that way, and having noticed the battle from the distance, they hastily made towards the mouth of the river Aa, and firing on the flank of the French, they brought down

upon them from the seaward side, where they considered themselves quite secure, a storm which was the more terrible because it was unexpected. The lines of the infantry were broken, the cavalry was seized with a panic, and the whole army was routed, so that scarcely any one was left of the whole mass to report the disaster to their friends And as if to increase the disgrace of the vanquished, those who had escaped and wan dered about Flanders without knowing their way, were miserably killed by the women who flocked from the villages, with cudgels and sticks' (Dum enim a veteranis uti imque exercitibus, dubio aliquamdiu Marte, conseruntur manus, inclinantem paululum Galloi um aciem inopinatus repente casus plane Naves Britannicae decem illac forte praetervehebantur, conspectaque procul pugna, ad ostrum fluminis Haae festinanter admotae, Gallorum latera tormentis invadunt tenipestatemque a maii, unde sese inaccessos rebantur hostes, adeo improvisam, ideoque majoi em important, ut solutis peditum oi dinibus, transmisso in equites metu, pi ofligato universo exercitu, vix e tanto dein numero superfuerit, qui nuncium cladis referret ad . In quod et illud victis accessit ad ignominiam, quod eorum reliquias per ignota Flandriae, loca errabundas, egressae e pagis giegatim mulieres fustibus sudibusque trucidarunt, 1 pp 20, 21)

1 27. The onomatopoetic interjections has, but correspond to the English 'bang, bang' Jumes and Ranonen, 'cannon

after cannon' In bien, 'right into'

1 29. The incidents related in the concluding lines of p 8 and the first lines of p 9, are taken from Meteren

1 31. Secbet say 'approach', the verb fommen being here

understood

- l 32. The English cannon struck also their allies, because, as Meteron says, 'the two parties were so close together' The adverb nost is here used in the sense of jumeticu, 'at times'
- P 9, 1. I The verb back does not signify here, as seems generally to be supposed, that the firing 'broke the lines of the French,' but that it 'broke then sprit,' that it 'disheartened the French,' which version is supported by the statement of Meteren, 'that the firing destroyed the courage of the French and emboldened the Flemish.'

1. 2 The interjections inf, inf, which are here used to express the rapidly succeeding crackling noise of musket reports, may be translated 'crack, crack'

1 3 Ersonen is the vulgar form for extransin

ll. 4. 5 Ilub was—hutterbrem, 'and all of us who were Dutch,'

ie 'and we Dutchmen jumped straight after them' The above use of was is confined to familiar speech only

Und maid eift moss, &c, 'we felt the more comfortable' On the adverb eist, in the present signification, see the note to

1 6 The liver alluded to is the Aa, which was behind the French army The sea was on their right hand, and the

enemy in front ll 7, 8 Was mun noch burdbrach, 'those who escaped' The pronoun Ench is here an ethical dative Cp the note to p 7, 1 12

I to Dus Pirthen render, 'to stretch out the little paw,' corresponds nearly to the idiomatic English phiase, 'to draw in one's horns' With reference to the conclusion of peace, Strada adds to his above-cited account of the battle the remark, 'Thus Henry King of France readily accepted the peace which he refused when favoured by fortune' (Sie Henricus Galliae rex, quan fortuna blandiente respuerat pacem... non illibenter i'lam complexus est)

l 13 Minmal, 'once more,' 'again' The adverb abe, now chiefly used for 'but,' was formerly employed for 'again', now it generally occurs in this signification in the compound

form abermals or aber und abermals

- l 15 With reference to the desire of the Netherlanders to see Egmont appointed as their Regent, Strada says (1 p 33) 'All the Flemish looked fondly up to Count Egmont, a prince glorious in warfare, and who was excelled by nobody, whether when engaged in battle against the enemy, or in time of peace at tournaments, or in shooting at the target with the gun, which latter art is held in high esteem by the people' (Erat in oculis votisque Belgarum, Comes Egmontius, claius militari scientia Princeps, manuque, sive inter hostes, sive domi equestribus in ludis decurrendis, librandoque ad signum sclopo [a quibus magna genti existimatio] nulli secundus, &c) Stiada further adds, that Egmont's brilliant exploits at St Quentin and Gravelines, which were publicly acknowledged even by the king himself, endeared him above all to his countrymen. so that if the votes of the army and the wishes of the people had been consulted, he certainly would have been appointed Regent of the Netherlands
- 1 17 Bush bleth wash is an idiomatic expression meaning that which is true cannot change, ie 'truth is truth' The pronoun mix is here an ethical dative

1 18 Cp on the pronoun mir, p 129, the note to 1 5

1 21 3n bem haufe, 1e in the House of Hapsburg This assertion finds its justification in the fact that the easily satisfied

Netherlanders had some reason to be pleased with the govern; ment of several female Regents who were descendants of the House of Hapsburg Mirgaret of Austria (or Savoy) daughter of the Emperor Maximilian I, and paternal aunt to Charles V, governed the Netherlands from 1504 to 1530 with prudence and gentleness, and gained the good-will of the people. Her successor Mary, Queen Dowager of Hungary and sister of Charles V—the tamous huntress-queen—was likewise popular among the Netherlanders. She was considered the prototype of Margaret of Parma, the celebrated Regent who figures among the personages of the present drama.

l 23 Ming tit fie, &c Strada portrays the Regent's character in the following words (1 p 42) 'She possessed, besides, a ready presence of mind, and in action a wonderful dexterity to steer in whichever direction she chose I nen, as to piety, she had indeed a very great master, Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Order of Jesus, to whom she used to confess, and that more frequently than was customary in those times' (Caeterum ingenium ei promptum ac piaesens, interque agendum, velificationis in omnem partem obliquandae mua dexteritas Porro ad pietatem magno sane magistro usa est, Ignatio Logola Societatis Jesu fundatore apud quem expiare a novis animum, idque crebi ius aliquanto, quam ea feirent tempora, consuevit, &c)

1 25 In addition to the four sees of Arras, Cambray, Tournay, and Utrecht, Philip II created fourteen new bishoprics (viz of Antwerp, Bois le Duc, Rurmond, Ghent, Bruges, Ypres, Saint Omer, Namur, Haarlem, Middleburgh, Leeuwarden, Groningen and Deventer), substituting bishops for the abbots, who had been generally elected by the religious institutions themselves, and thus taking away the old rights of the Netherlanders. This measure greatly increased the disaffection of the people, who saw in it an expedient for enriching foreign priests by Flemish wealth, and for gaining fanatical agents for

the extinction of the Netherland 'heresy.'

l 26 The verb follen is, in phrases like the present, used elliptically, the verb nugen, 'to be of use,' being understood as worn foll bas? 'what is the use of that?'

I 29 & fet un bet Religion, &c This and similar complaints were, according to Meteren and Strada, loudly and frequently

uttered by the people

Us hat fith is an idiomatic phrase, by which the speaker ironically admits the occurrence of an event which has actually not taken place. It must be translated according to the sense of the passage in which it occurs. Here it may

be rendered by phiases like 'of course it is so', 'Oh, I

believe you?

1 30 Goethe mentions, in accordance with Meteren, three sees only, because Utrecht was within the archiepiscopate of Cologne

Sing's an. 'things went on,' or 'were done'

1 32. Es fest (familiai for es gibt) Beiding, &c , is an impei-

sonal phrase for 'there is, or arises, vexation,' &c

- P 10, 1 I Mutteln und idjutteln is one of those alliterative thyming expressions in which the German language abounds, and which may frequently be rendered into English by a single word. Here, however, we may translate idjuttelt unb uttelt by 'stir and shake,' and tuber in the next line by 'muddler'. The speaker wishes to imply that 'the more looks into and agitates the matter, the more unsatisfactory it is seen to be'
- 1 3 Ste-thun, lit 'she can add nothing to it, noi take anything from it,' ie she can make it neither better nor worse
- 1 5 The Psalms, partly translated into French verse by the poet Clément Marot (1495–1544) and completed at Geneva by the celebrated Théodore Beza, or rather De Bèze (1519–1605), who appended to them suitable melodies, enjoved the greatest popularity in Flanders The prohibition to sing them was founded on the edict promulgated by Charles V at Augsburg, Sept 25, 1550, in which all kinds of private worship, as well as the reading of the Scriptures, were forbidden to laymen on pain of death, and it is recorded (Brandt, Hist der Reformatie, 1 169) that one Thomas Calberg, being convicted of having copied some hymns from a book printed at Geneva, was burned alive
  - 1 8 Schelmenlieder, 'frivolous songs'
- 1 9 Und Sachen, Gott weiß Translate 'and Heaven knows what'

l 11 Michts, lit 'nothing,' 1 e no harm

I 12 3th wollte fit fingen, is, in the sense in which it is used here, an ironical phrase, denoting, 'I should ask their leave, indeed!'

The province alluded to was Flanders, of which, as well as

of Artois, Egmont was the Stadtholder

1 13 Das madht, whether followed by bas or not, expresses idiomatically 'that is,' 'because'

1 14 Nach etwas fiagen, is here equivalent to sich um etwas

bifummen, 'to trouble oneself about anything'

I 15 Wer Belieben hat, 'who likes to,' 'who has a mind to'

I 16 Sa would may here be rendered by 'certainly,' to be placed before &s tit

1 20 Es set nicht auf die rechte Art, &c, re 'the priests assert that the private singing of the Psalms could not be considered as ti ue divine sei vice,

1 21, &c Doch miner may here be rendered by 'anyhow,' and he by 'therefore'

Etwas fem lassen, 'to leave anything alone '

1 22 Juguistionsbuner, 'officials of the Inquisition' The inquisitors had appointed sub-inquisitors, who, accompanied by a notary, collected written information in the provinces

concerning suspected persons

1 24 Der Gewiffenszwang fehlte noch, 'this restraint of conscience was yet wanting, i e 'to complete the ignominious oppiession' The elliptical exclamation bus fehlte noch is used to express the highest degree of disappointment or misery, and denotes, as in the present instance, that a certain event

was yet wanting to complete the misery

l 27 Rommt micht auf, 'will not maintain itself' The Inquisition was so deeply and universally abhorred by the Netherlanders, that it may be considered as the principal cause of then revolt against the Spanish rule, though it was not quite so mercilessly carried out there as in Spain Strada says with reference to the Inquisition (1 58) 'It was nowhere carried out more rigorously and severely than in Spain' (Nusquam tamen per Hispaniam evquisitius, acriusque, &c)

1 31 The adjective fatal is used in German to express a high degree of unpleasantness, r e 'provoking,' 'grievous,' &c

Eich, here used nonically, may be rendered by 'good'

P 11, 1 4 Heber, here 'across'

- 1 5 A number of German field-preachers used to roam through the Netherlands, preaching the Gospel in the open air Thousands of people flocked from all parts of the country to hear them, and thus they greatly confirbuted to the spread of the Reformation The fact that there were two powerful agencies at work in the Netherlands for the furtherance of the Reformation, namely, the Lutheran and the Calvinistic elements, has been most skilfully illustrated by Goethe, in mentioning the popularity of the German preachers and of the French version of the Psalms
- I 12 Octob, 'mess,' 'dish,' is the familiai frequentative form for Gefoch (from Rochen), and denotes anything cooked, more particularly a mixture

Benintrommeln, lit 'to drum away,' may here be rendered by 'to drone' The expression is here used to denote the monotonous delivery of the regular preachers

l 14 Bon der Leber wegiprechen, is an idiomatic phrase, equivalent to wom Beigen wegiprechen, 'to speak from one's heart'

1 18 Dody and may here be rendered by 'after all,' and

bun (contraction of baian) by 'in it'

Was is here used for etwas l 10 Mu 1st's . herungegangen, 'it has been running'

1. 22 Das glaub' to, 'I should think so'

1 24 Unb—nun say and where is the harm'

1 26 Ueber dem Schwaten, 'in chatting'

1 28 Den—vergeffen, 'we must not forget him' The following demonstrative pronoun, bus, may be rendered by 'he'

1 30 Brachte einen nicht hervor, 'could not pull you away' l 31 William, Prince of Orange, was a German by buth He was born in 1533, at Dillenburg, in the county of His father was Count William of Nassau, and his mother a Countess Stolberg William of Orange was the founder of the national independence of the Netherlanders, who commonly designated him by the familiar name, 'Father William' He gave up his exalted position and the comforts of wealth to lead a life of incessant struggles in the service of the people, and steadfastly refused the crown, repeatedly offered to him by the nation Even his enemies could not deny him their tribute of admiration for his constancy in the unequal warfare which he had to wage, and his friends likened him to a rock in the ocean, 'tranquil amid raging billows' It may be truly said of him, that he combined almost all the virtues of the great benefactors of mankind known in the world's history To give even the merest biographical outline of his life would be quite impossible in this place, his life being actually the history of the rise of the Dutch republic great man died in 1584, at the age of fitty-one, by the hand of the assassin Balthazar Gérard, a native of Burgundy

P 12, l 1 Cine Gefundheit bringen, or ausbringen, 'to propose

a toast'

l 6 Jetter's speech admirably describes the feelings of peaceful citizens amidst the turmoil of war, with its universal confusion and imminent dangers

1 7 Daβ—geht, 'that it glibly slips from your mouth,'

ie the cheering in honour of war

The adverb wohl may here be rendered by 'quite'

1 8 Due sumpty—tft, 'but how wretched it (the war) makes us feel' The term sumpty is here synonymous with jammersid, 'wretched,' 'miserable'

1 9 Day Octioninel, 'the (constant) beating of drums' Octioninel is the frequentative form of thomacin Frequen-

tative nouns are formed in German from verbs, by means of the prefix ge, and are always neuter They generally denote the constant occurrence or frequent repetition of an action

l 10. The adverb ba is frequently used in German in the

sense of hier, 'here'

Saufen, here 'troop' This word is frequently used in the singular number without the letter  $\pi$ 

Gezogen fommt, 'approaches'

l 12 The verb bleiben, lit 'to remain,' is used as an equivalent for 'to die,' more particularly with reference to persons perishing on the field of battle or in consequence of a shipwieck. The expression probably conveys the notion that the person dying remains on the spot whilst others return Cp the French 'rester sur le champ de bataile'

1 13 Sich blangen (from Drang, 'throng,' 'pressure'), 'to

press forward'

l 14 Setti (tittiti, betti,) Lage is an elliptical expression, denoting 'the whole lifetime of a man' Here it may be rendered by 'ever' Cp the English phrase, 'all my days'

1 16 Den eigeht, 'fares with the'

l 18 &s-fs, 'we shall fare like that,' or 'it will be our tuin next'

- l 22 3a, cs ubt fich wer, &c Transl 'Much can one practise when one,' &c The expression cs ubt fich (wer), is here used nonically, signifying 'much can he practise (who)' The reflective form is used in German impersonally, when the activity is not conceived as proceeding from a definite subject, or the latter is stated in a general way only, as is the case here
  - l 25 Auf is here used in the sense of gegen, 'against'

1 26 Solten-Athem, 'we breathed freely again'

1 28 The interjection get is often used, either ironically of in earnest, to express the certainty that the person spoken to will grant the truth of an assertion. It admits of various renderings, as 'I'd bet,' 'eh, is it not so?' (cp the French n'est ce pas?) 'faith,' &c. Here it might also be translated by 'didn't they' to be placed after be fager. Du am fchwerten auf, 'they pressed you hardest'

I 29 Bein et stel, 'mind your own business' The proper

meaning is 'don't vex me, but vex your own self'

1 30 Due-bu, 'they were heavily quartered upon you'

l 31 Maul say 'tongue' The term Maul, 'mouth,' is a vulgar expression and properly used with reference to beasts only

P 13, 1 4. The word Troof signifies literally a 'drop,' and

figuratively a 'silly person,' 'a blockhead,' &c Some etymolog sts trace the figurative meaning to the Low German Didnow, 'a silly person,' or to the Slavonic 'Traup,' 'a fool,' whilst others explain it by the circumstance that Tidpf was formerly used for 'apoplexy,' and a person of weak understanding was called Tidpf, he being considered as helpless as an apoplectic person. In support of this explanation we would add that Tidpf was employed for 'apoplexy' because it was supposed that that disease was caused by diops of water from the biain (by the French 'goutte') and an apoplectic person was therefore equivalent to one whose brains were affected, and the present

1 13 Fallt mit ein, 'joins in'

1 16 Margaret of Parma was the daughter of Charles V and Margaret van der Genst She was brought up until her eighth year by Margaret of Austria (also called 'of Savoy'), the Emperor's paternal aunt, then Regent of the provinces Upon the death of the latter the young princess was entrusted to the care of the Emperor's sister, Mary, Queen Dowager of Hungary She was twice married To her first husband, Alexander of Medici, she was united at the age of twelve, whilst her husband was twenty-seven years old, and a few years after his death she was mairied to Ottavio Farnese, a youth of thirteen She was about thirty-seven years of age when her half-brother Philip II appointed her, 'for political reasons,' Regent of the Nether-Endowed with a powerful mind, possessing a proud and energetic character, and well versed in the art of diplomacy, she seemed the most suitable person for the difficult office, the more so, because she would not be considered a stranger by the Netherlanders. In her appearance she was rather masculine and majestic. She was famous as a huntiless, and outrivalled in this respect her instructress, Mary of Austria, the celebrated huntress-queen. It is a fine dramatic touch of the author to make her appear on the stage in a hunting-dress

1 18 Ihr stellt ab Abstellen is here used for abbestellen,

and the indicative employed for the imperative

l 21 The Regent refers to the dreadful scenes of imagebreaking which took place in the Netherlands in the latter part of August 1566

1 23 The expression Bilber, 'images,' is here used figura-

tively for 'scenes'

1 26 Das Mathlichfte, 'the most advisable,' 1 e 'the suitable thing'

P 14, l r The verb anfactur is now generally used in the sense of 'to kindle,' but in the present instance it means 'to fan' (the Latin 'afflare'), an interpretation which is also confirmed by the authority of Jacob Grimm

Umbertieiben here 'to spiead'

l 2 The expression versaulten is here used in the sense of 'to stifle,' 'to suffocate'

1 4 The verb ift has in this phi ase the signification of 'can'

- 1.5 The expression Lether designates here the religious teachers and ministers who flocked to the Netherlands from the neighbouring countries, explaining and preaching the Gospel
- 17 Scruttet may here be rendered by 'unsettled,' Schwinbelgeift by 'spirit of infatuation,' and unter fie gebaunt by 'implanted among them'

l 10 Eugen, lit 'singly,' 1 e 'in full detail,' 'minutely'

1 12 Huf denotes here 'rumour,' and zuvot tomme, 'outstrip,' 'outrun'

- l 18 Goethe has selected for Margaret of Paima's secretary, whom he makes the exponent of liberal views and of a conciliatory policy, a courtier whom, as is related by Strada, the Regent had employed in 1567 to bear a special letter to the King ('Machiavellum aulicum suum legat ad legem' Strada, 1 p 301) It has been conjectured by some critics, that in the selection of that name a reminiscence of the celebrated Florentine historian was in Goethe's mind
- l 25 The general outlines of the image-breaking 110ts contained in the following speech are condensed from the detailed account given by Strada (1 p 216, &c)
- P 15, I r The conjunction min, when put in connection with the relative pronominal adverb mas, strengthens the assertion. Render therefore alles—antieffen by 'everything sacred and holy which they find on their way'
- l 5 The name of the bishop alluded to was Martin Rithove
- 1 8 The tumultuous outbreak of the Iconoclasts is here called a conspiracy, in accordance with the original account from which the present sketch has been condensed. It has, however, been historically proved that the movement was, to speak with Motley, 'a sudden explosion of popular revenge against the symbols of that Church by which the Reformers had been enduring such terrible persecution'
- 1 9 The reflective verb field enflacen is here synonymous with field offenbaren, 'to manifest itself.'

l 11 Bieberholung Translate '1 ecital'

Gefellt fid bagin Translate 'adds to my grief, that ' l 12 The conjunctive (subjunctive) is used in German in clauses containing an apprehension

l 15 Stillen, here 'fancies,' 'whims'

1 17 The verb mogen, which may here be rendered by felt inclined, stands for genrofit, in accordance with the rule that auxiliary verbs of mood, when they occur after an infinitive, are usually put in the infinitive instead of the past

1 19 Kui's Nachste sougen, 'provide for the nearest concern'

1 22 The pertinent answer of the Regent sounds almost like a reminiscence of Stiada's iemaik (i p 194) 'It is easier to foresee than to aveit the events which are in store for us' (Quae unumquemque manent, praesentire, quam vntare, facilius est)

I 24 Gin Wort fur taufent, lit 'one word for a thousand,' i e 'in one word' In the following clause the present tense is used for the future in accordance with the rule which sanctions the use of the present tense, whenever a future event is represented as one which is certain to take place, or not

1 25 East sie gelten, 'recognise them' (i e the adherents of

the new creed)

- l 26 Just—em, 'admit them within the pale of civic order,' 'confine them within the bounds of the law'. The drift of Machiavell's advice is, that the best mode of stifling the growing rebellion would be, to take off with one stroke the edge of the spreading ferment by declaring the new doctrine legal, and by placing its a lherents in the eyes of the law on an equal footing with the 'true believers'. In this case, no further spread of the revolt need be apprehended
- l 27 Gabt Shi gehacht The perfect tense is sometimes used in German for the future perfect

1 31 Selbst die Frage say 'the mere suggestion'

P 16, l r The present speech of the Regent is entirely founded on the account which Strada gives (1 p 141, &c) of the secret correspondence which was carried on between Philip II and Margaret of Parma. The letters, one hundred of which were in the possession of that remarkable historian, were frequently written in cypher and in all of them the King urged the Regent to have constantly in view the safety of the Roman Catholic Church before everything clse in the world. He further relates that Philip II was kept so well informed of all the doings of the heretics, that he actually sent

a list of their names (which was likewise in the hands of Strada), stating at the same time their ranks, age, hiding-places, and even their personal appearance

1 3 Wiffen will say will not hear (of)

1 5 Minning Translate 'doctrine'

1 8 Schaife, here 'severity'

1 9 Translate here machine by 'be indulgent,' and butte in the next line by 'tolerate,' or 'be patient'

1 13 Jemand etwas wissen lassen, 'to inform any one of

anything

l 15 Den Ring anblasen, 'to kindle (the flame of) wai '

1 16 Strada mentions the Flemish merchants as the principal promoters of the 'heretical' movement. They were infected by their intercourse with the foreign merchants. The German soldiers who had been employed by Charles V and Philip II also contributed to the spread of 'heresy'

I 19 Transl Mochte doch eingeben by 'oh that would

suggest,' and Guft by 'genius'

1 20 Auftandiger ift, say 'better becomes'

1 21 3weiceler Glaubens, 'of two different creeds'

- l 23 Sold em Bort me meter is an elliptical clause. In the English translation the adverb me should be placed at the beginning, and the imperative 'utter' or 'let me hear,' supplied after it
- 1 24 Tien und Chauben halten is an idiomatic phrase for 'to regard truth and good faith' Politif may here be rendered by 'politics' or 'diplomacy'

1 28 Bewahrte Lehre say 'established faith '

1 30 Singeben an, here 'give up for'. The expression here gelaufin is generally used with reference to a vagabond, straggler, or adventurer. Here, however, that term will perhaps best be rendered by 'random'.

1 32 Deswegen, lit on that account, may here be translated

by 'tor what I have said'

P 17, 1 3 bett, here 'salvation'

1 6 The verb begading should here be rendered by 'to allude' or 'refer to'

1 8 Recht unerlichen, say 'heart-felt'

1 rr The conversation alluded to by the Regent is historical Strada has given a full account of the incident (1 p 210), and we think it of sufficient interest to quote those parts of his account which Goethe has interwoven in so ingenious a manner in the present scene. After having related the outrages of the Iconoclasts, the author of the De Bello Belgico proceeds, 'The news of that herce slaughter greatly

afflicted the Regent, who, turning in her deep grief to Egmont, who accompanied her to the Palace on her way from the mass and sermon, said, "Do you hear, Count, what pleasant news they bring from Flanders, this province of yours? And will you, of whose bravery and fidelity the King always expected the utmost, allow such great crimes against God to pass unpunished?"' (Enimvero furiosae cladis nuncius praeter modum afflixit animum Gubernatricis quae ingenti moerore ad Egmontium conversa, qui eam à Sacio et concione i edeuntem comitabatur in conclave Audis, inquit, Comes, quam laeta perferuntur e Flandria, pi ovincia tua? Tu vero, de cujus praecipue virtute ac fide sibi Rex pollicitus sempei est omnia, patieris in Provincia tibi commissa, tam immania in Deum scelera impune patrari?) To this reproof the Count calmly replied, 'First' we must think of the conservation of the State, religious matters will afterwards be easily settled' (Primam conservando imperio curam intendendam esse, religionem facile dein restitutum iri)

l 19 Mebensache, 'a thing of secondary importance,' 'a trifle ' I 20 Translate here uber by 'as to,' and benufugt by 'satisfied'

1 21 Sich leicht geben, say soon be settled'

1 24 Daß es mehr zu thun ift, 'that we are more anxious for'

1 27 Tette Pfrunden geschmaust, 'swallowed fat benefices' 1 28 Translate weiden befelt by 'are given to,' and omit the

preposition mit in the translation

Laffen-merfen, 'do not the Spaniai'ds give unmistakeable signs?

1 32 Bon ben Seinigen, say 'by their own countiymen'

P. 18, I 4 Du stellst buh, 'you range yourselt'

1 5 The pronoun it is to be supplied before wollte.

- 1 7 The verb wollen is here used in the sense of bet Meining fem, translate therefore Wenn-willst by it this be your opinion' Compare the corresponding use of 'velle' in Latin, as for instance in quod quum volunt, declarant quaedam esse vera (Cicero)
- 1 9 According to Strada (1 p 114) both Egmont and Orange manifested great coldness towards the Government as soon as the Regent had assumed her office, for 'having both been frustrated in their hopes to obtain the government of the whole of the Netherlands, they felt the recent slight the more keenly' (Nempe cum dejectus uterque spe adminstrandi universi Belgu, recentem repulsam acrius sentiebant)

I to The league between Egmont and Orange was, according to Stiada (i pp 115-120) rather cemented by their

common hatred against Cardinal Granvelle, than by their opposition to the Regent

In the delineation of the characters of Orange and Egmont is almost entirely based on the sketch drawn of them by Strada, who says (1 p 120) Egmont was of a cheerful temper, frank and self-confiding, Orange, however, was of a melancholy disposition, reserved (heimfuth) and distrustful Full of forethought, the latter was constantly restless, and directed his thoughts towards the future, the former busied himself only with the actual present. One would have hoped more of the one, feared more from the other. (Erat Egmontius in mgento bilar, explicato, sibique praefidente, trist Orangius, inobservabili, vitabundo. Provisor alter anxius, inque futura semper animo praecuriens,—alter plerumque curis vacuus nist instantibus—Plus ab altero spera es ab altero, plus timeres.)

1 18 Weht-Schutt, 'steps forth freely'

l 20 So hoth say 'as proudly'

1 21 Micht-schwebte, 'were not suspended over him'

1 22 Cp p 128, the note to 1 1 p 8

l 23 hangen an ihm, 'are attached to him'

1 24 Enten Schein siy 'appearances'

1 25 Von Jemand Nechenschaft sordern, 'to call any one to account'

1 26, &c This passage contains an allusion to the family dispute which was attached to the principality of Guelderland. It had been sold, in 1471, by the family of Egmont to Charles the Bold of Burgundy, and in spite of litigation which broke out subsequently about its possession, it remained in the hands of the Hapsburg dynasty The words used here by Goethe are based on a remark which Strada adds (1 p 329) to his account of the House of Egmont, viz 'It-viz the House of Egmont—derived its name from the town of Egmont, situated on the extreme border of Holland, on the coast of the North Sea, and from which Lamoralius assumed the title of Count, although he was Prince of Gaure [Gawr], which lay on the Scheldt, not far from Ghent' (Genti cognomentum ab Egmontio oppido in extrema Batavia ad litus occidentale, ex quo comitis appellationem semper usur pavit Lamoralius, quamvis Gaver ae ad Scaldis ripam sitae, non procul Gandavo princeps esset)

1 30 Bieber geltend machen, here 'revive again'

P 19, 1 3 Sich um Bentanb verbient machen, 'to deserve well of any one,' 'to render great service to'

1 6 Gefellschaften, here 'social gatherings'

1 9 Emen-Schwindel, 'a never-ceasing frenzy'

l ro Geschopft say 'imbibed'

- l 12 Mbetthen, here 'devices' The incidents to which the Regent alludes will be found fully stated in the Notes to Egmont's speech, p 44, &c, and in the Historical Introduction
- l 15 The phrase Edium genug denotes, with idiomatic brevity, that 'it is bad enough as it is', viz Egmont's doings are bad enough in their results, though he does not accomplish them with any evil intention

l 18 So helt eme das andere, 'thus one drives on the other' 1 e the reckless doings of the one produce the harsh doings

of the other

l 19 Das macht such eist recht, 'is the more sure to be brought about', namely, the very endeavour to avert a certain occurrence produces the contrary result

1 22 It is a historical fact that Egmont's doings were, one

and all, duly chronicled at the Spanish Court

ll. 23, 24 The conjunction buf may have be rendered by 'in which,' and much—mucht by 'does not annoy me, annoy me very much'

I 27 The term gefalligen is here used in the sense of 'ac-

commodating, 'convenient' or 'complacent'

- l 29 Mark the use of the conjunctive (subjunctive) in the clauses which are here dependent on the principal clause—Gr fleht oft and
- 1 31. Cs-genen say 'that will come all in good time' viz the departure of the Spaniards from the country is sure to follow of itself
- ${f P}$  20, ll 1–3 Leqt and, 'do (not) consider as ' The verb analegen signifies literally to 'interpret,' 'to construe'
  - 1 2 Blut, lit 'blood,' may here be rendered by 'temper'
- l 4 In this line the verb ausligen should be rendered by itsliteral equivalent

1 6 The preposition was is here to be rendered by 'on,' and

in the next line by 'against'

1 8 The privileges connected with Flemish nobility were a special safeguard against any hasty arbitrary act of royal displeasure, and the Knights of the Golden Fleece could, besides, only be judged by the Grand Master (i e the King) with the assembled Chapter of the Knights Cp p 49, l 17, p 63, ll 13-16

1 II The charge here mentioned forms one of the articles

of the accusations brought forward against Egmont

1 12 Daß—hatten, 'that we had something on our hand' 1 13. Laß much nun, 'let me alone', 1 e let me speak on.

Mad-bavon, 'what weighs upon my heart shall find its vent on this occasion'

l 15 Compfinding if may in this line be rendered by 'can be touched,' and in the next line by 'susceptible' or 'vulnerable'.

- l 17 This seems to be an allusion to a meeting of the Council which took place on Dec 15, 1566, and at which the Regent delivered an energetic address (communicated in full by Stiada, 1 p 241), with a view of obtaining the sanction of the nobles to strict measures and of throwing upon their shoulders the burden of the responsibility' concerning the outrages of the image-breakers
  - 1 24 The name of the messenger is fictitious

l 26 Cp p 14, l 12

l 27 The concluding remark seems to be an allusion to the secret messages which the Regent used to send to the King of Spain

P 21, 1 7 Liebesbienst may here be rendered by 'favour'

1 8 Shr—hin, 'you hold me (as with a spell) so fast before

you with the yarn

l II Guns may here be rendered by 'something' The neuter form is frequently used in German, as in the present instance, to denote a thing which is self-understood in an indefinite manner

1 12 Subset secundary, 'to sing a good second'

1 17 When the expression subset is used to strengthen the meaning of another adverb, it assumes the signification of ική, selfi, 'right, very,' &c

Bufch weg say 'briskly'

I 18 Leibstud, 'favourite song, or tune'

1 20 The past participle geinhiet in this, and gespiest in the

next line, are used with the force of an imperative

l 22 The form genaffuet instead of benaffuet occurs frequently in poetry, when the past participle has a passive meaning. The former is, besides, far more melodious in this place than the latter would be

1 23 Saufen, here 'troop'

1 24 Futher may here be rendered by 'carries' This and the following line refer to Mein Liebston

1 26 The form Beize instead of Beiz was formerly also

used

- 1 28 Mammesen is a diminutive of Mamme, 'jacket' Hose, 'hose'
- P 22, l 1 Folgt' is here the present conditional of folgen, and guig', in ll 3 and 4, that of genen

- 1 3 The expression Provingen is here appropriately used on account of the division of the Netherlands into pro-DINCES

1 6 Schresen baren, 'fire among them'
1 7 Sonder Gleichen, 'without comparison'

1 8 On account of the double meaning of which the word 'man' admits, the term Manushib, lit 'male being,' may here be rendered by 'soldier'

1 9 Unter bem Sungen, 'during the song'

l 10 Bleibt ftodin, 'talters' Ihm be is to be translated by 'his'

1 11 Strang, here 'skein.' Singt . and say 'finishes'

1 16 The verb marschnen is a military expression, and signifies the 'marching of soldiers'

1 20 Haft-Saufen, 'nearly all the soldiers are out'

1 27 The adverb and may here be rendered by 'besides'

1 28 That mu weh, here 'pains me' Immer micht, 'never' 1 29, &c 3d — thu, 'I have done him wrong' Mith magt's am Seizen, 'it wrings my heart' Lebenbug, here 'keenly,' 'acutely' 1 31 The adverb both has in such exclamations the

meaning of 'surely'

1 32 Treuer Buische say 'true-hearted fellow'

P 23, l 1 Icannot help it' 1 5. Hebel baran firm, 'to be ill, or badly off'

1 7 Doch is here to be rendered by 'yet,' to be placed before to

1 8 Out is here used in the sense of recht, 'right'

1 9 Jemand gein haben, 'to like any one' Jemand (em) Wohl wollen, 'to wish any one well'

1 10 Cp the Note to p 15, 1 17

1 12 The adverb mimer is here used in the sense of immer hun, 'at any rate,' 'anyhow,' 'at all events'

The pronoun id is frequently omitted in German

colloquial speech, and in poetry

1 17 So is here a mere expletive Gegangen ift, 'has come to pass'

1 18 The verb builten is here used in the sense of 'to need

l 19 Translate here wate mit by would become to me, placing this clause after meh

I 20 The omission of fur before em in this phrase is per mitted in familiai speech only

1 27. Ausgehen, here 'end'

1 30 Gelaffen, 'quietly,' 'calmly ' Ließet, here 'allowed'

P 24, l. 1 Borbenetten, 'to 11de by '

1 4 3 mother, here 'displeasing.'

- 1 6 The clause առախ աս աստ Ֆաւտաւք signifies here approximately 'after all, you are going to reproach me'
  - 1 8 Den Weg muchte say 'came this way '
- l 12 Dadite td), say 'did I know,' or 'could I imagine' The verb function may here be rendered by 'to go.'
  - 1 13 Smudgehaltenen, here 'suppressed,' or 'repressed'

1 19 hinteißen, 'to carry away

1 21 Mit ausbiechenden Thanen, 'bursting into tears' 3h wollt's nun say 'this is what you want,' viz exciting her griet

l 23 It is exceedingly difficult to give an adequate expression for the adverbs not) gai in the sense in which they occur here. The translation 'now torment me yet with your crying' for Matthe noth gai, will convey the meaning approximately Cp above, line 6

1 25 Gin verworfenes Geschopf, 'a castaway'

- P 25, l 1 Minimum, here 'to whisper' Clarchen wishes to imply by this unfinished sentence, that she does not care for the opinions of the common people and for the idle goss p of her neighbours
  - l 2 Summel may here be freely rendered by 'Paradise'

l 3 Man—sem, 'one cannot help loving him' Cp p 132, the Note to 1 15, p 9

- 1 5 The idiomatic phrase & ift feine faifide Wher an imm corresponds to the English 'there is not a drop of bad blood in him'
- 1 6 The adverb body may here be rendered by 'you know,' to be placed either before a, or after Egmont

1 7 Let say 'tender'
1 9 So nu, 'nothing but'

- 1 io The adverb woof, in phrases expressing a doubt or uncertainty, is an expletive, which in many cases may be rendered by the familiar expression 'I wonder,' or by 'is likely'
  - 1 12 Wenn's inustry, when there is any sound at the door'
- 1 13 The compound adverbs objdien, objdienth, &c, may be separated, as is done in the present instance

1 14 Bamuthen may here be rendered by 'to expect

1 18 Springingfeld is a very characteristic expression for 'giddy-pate' It is formed from the imperative Spring 11.3 Telb, 'spring into the field'

1 19 The adverb balo, when repeated before other parts of

speech, as is the case here, is to be rendered by ' now

1 21 Menn un Langeweile habe, 'if I don't know what to do with myself' The German phrase corresponds here exactly to the French's je m'ennuie'

1 22 Supply the word einige, 'some,' before gingen

1. 23 Lobliedchen auf ihn, 'songs in his plaise'

Il 24, 25 Das—Gals, 'my heart leaped up into my throat' P 26, l 2 Steht ba, 'there it stood' The construction used in this clause is permissible in familiar speech only

1 4 On this incident compare p 8, 1 23, and Note p 130 With ubrilief's is the imperfect of the impersonal phrase es

with untitles is the imperient of the impersonal phrase es untitle much, 'I shudder'

I 5 The expression holografithmisten must be paraphrased in

English by translating ufer—Equivalent by 'at the wood-cut figure of Egmont,' or by 'at the figure of Egmont cut in wood'

1 6 Glaid, babet, 'close to it,' viz close to Egmont's figure Goethe characterizes by the description of the woodcut the style which was peculiar to the artistic productions of those times. Many similar woodcuts are found in the historical works relating to the revolt of the Netherlands, as in those of Strada, Meteren, &c. Duntzer supposes that Goethe has actually seen the woodcut he describes. There is nothing improbable in this supposition, but it is not impossible that the poet has invented the existence of the woodcut, as he did the incident of Clarchen's seeing it

1 II Ilub—ift, 'and what I now think of all this'

1 13, Due steht's is an idiomatic phrase for 'how do matters stand, or go on,' 'what news,' &c

1 15. Soll is here, and in the next line, used in the sense of

'they say,' 'it is rumoured,' &c

l 17 Besent, here 'gairisoned' Sind zahsteich, are assembled in large numbers' Cp pp 150, 151, the notes to ll 11, 12, p 32

I 18 The expression summer signifies not only 'to buzz,' 'to hum' (of bees), but also 'to move in a restless manner,' in speaking of a crowd Translate here summen by 'sway to and fro'

1 19 Supply the verb gehen after Bater, the verb wollen being

here used elliptically

l 21 Use în the English version the verb 'to see,' in the first person plural of the future tense In German the futurity is sufficiently pointed out by the adverb morgen

1 23 Liederlich say 'untidy'

l 25 The expression Sifforte, in which the final e is also heard, was formerly used for 'story,' 'novel' The obsolete expression is here quite appropriate to the tenor of the quaint and familiar speech of the present scene

l 31 Gerade say 'du ectly' Some editions have the contracted form grade Da sie es dastu austrumut, 'now as she takes

me at my word.'

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P 27, 1 3 Sleith may here be rendered by 'indifferent'

16 Greathum is a school term for Aufgabe, 'exercise,' 'theme' Brutus stands here in the genitive case It is not declined, in accordance with the rule that foreign proper names ending in a sibilant do not take any additional termination, more particularly when the last syllable is not accented. The expedient to point out in such instances the respective cases by the definite article, is not invariably resorted to Goethe does not employ it here, and Schiller also uses Mereus Tochter, Menns beiterer Tempel

1 7. Man both unmer has here the force of 'was sure to be'

1 8 The title Rutor is in German given only to the 'head

master 'or 'principal' of a public school

The expression ordentlich is here used in the sense of suffer mation, 'systematical,' and refers to the composition, and not, as some translators suppose, to the manner in which the speech was delivered.

1. 9 Min-anticipent, 'and all was not so jumbled together' The conditional ware, in the preceding line, refers also to the

present clause

Danials—true, 'then my blood boiled and fermented' In his early youth, Brackenburg says, he was enthusiastic and impulsive, so much so that he did not expound his ideas systematically, but stated them in a confused, precipitate manner

l 15 Saute translate 'whispered' 1 21 Co fort leben, 'live on thus.'

1 23 Heftiger beivegt say 'convulsed' Sterbe ab, 'pine away '

1 24 The clause Ich bulb' of might, does not refer to the preceding sentence, but is a repetition of the former statement that 'he will bear it (viz this mode of life) no longer'

1 25 Mu fahit's bind, it thrills through my-

1 26 Meyen is here to be rendered by 'to stimulate,' and fordern by 'to summon.'

Auch mit einzugieisen, 'to join in the common cause '

1 27 The meaning of unit will here, in some degree, be conveyed by adding the words 'with others' to retten

1 29 Grangftete, 'agonized'

1 31. The verb rengeffen, belongs to that class of verbs which are now commonly used with the accusative case, except in higher diction, where they frequently occur with the genitive

P 28, l 11 Decterfastifien, signifies literally 'a doctor's chest

for medicines' say here 'medicine-chest'

1 12 Todessubweiße, 'sweat of death,' 'agony of death.'

1. 14. Beischlingen und losen, 'engulph and quell.'

## Zweiter Aufzug

- P 31, 1 5 Զաղք, Իt 'guld,' is here used for Զաղքինքն, 'guld-hall' Ամ—ցմես, 'there wou'd be serious disturbances'
- 1 8 The expression plumbers is here used in accordance with the notion, which was first commonly current, that the image-breakers were chiefly bent upon pillage. It was however soon proved that this was not the case. It would be very easy,' says Motley, 'to accumulate a vast weight of testimony as to their forbearance from robbery. They destroyed for destruction's sake, not for purposes of plunder' (Rise of the Dutch Republic, 1 571)

1 11 Lauter Lumpengefindel, 'nothing but rabble'

l 12 Matht fdhinn, 'damages' In der Didnung, here 'in due form'

1 14 Drauf halten, 'stood by them' 1 15 So heißt es, 'it will be said'

1 16 Munimicale means literally, 'an instigator to rebellion', say here 'rioters'

1 17 Was-voian, 'why shouldst thou poke thy nose first

into it' bangt. zusammen, 'is connected'

l 21 Unter—anfangt, 'tumults arise among the rabble'. The adverb enumal in the preceding line need not be translated.

l 23 Uns beinfen, here 'appeal'

P 32, 1 4 In the latter end of August 1566 the rumour had spread that the rebels intended to set the churches at

Brussels on fire, and to massacre all the priests

I 6 Tokan is the older form for Takan It is still frequently used by common people and in students' cant Some of the recent German editions have the modern word, but the old form which occurs also in the first edition of Egmont seems far more appropriate to the present speaker

1 7 Wacte is here synonymous with mulfing, 'brave'

1 8 The verb bleden is in similar phrases used emphatically for fem Mußer Vaffung fem, 'to lose all self-control, or self-possession'

l ii The incident alluded to by Soest occurred in 1566, when the iumour had spread that the Iconoclasts meditated a raid on Brussels The Regent intended to escape, and it was only owing to the remonstrances and assurances of her council that she was prevailed upon to remain Her distress of body

and anguish of spirit was however so great that she confesses herself 'que par aulcuns jours, la fiebvre m'a détenue et ay passé plusieis nuicts sans repos' (Correspondance de Marguerite d'Autriche, p 194) Subsequently she tried again to leave Brussels, but having been frustrated in her design she 'ordered a new reinforcement of cavalry and infantry to the town, fortified her palace (Die Bing iff that befett), and omitted nothing to insure her own safety and that of the town' (Atque advocato in urbem novo equitum ac peditum praesidio, armataque aula, nibil omisit ad sui urbisque custodiam Strada, 1 D 223)

I 12 Some citizens, savs Strada (1 p 221), actually shut the gates of the city, whilst others implored her 'not to increase by her flight the audacity of the miscreants (Ne per eam fugam sceleratis bominibus augeret audaciam) and not to shake the confidence of the King in the citizens by making him suppose that they were accomplices in the conspiracy'

1 14 The expression Stutsbarte, lit 'clipped mustachioes,'

is here used as a nickname for 'Spanish soldiers'

1 16 Cp p 128, the Note to 1 1, p 8

1 18 Gaistige Handel say 'an u ly business this '

l 19 The clause geht fout aus is here used with a future signification, viz 'things will take a bad turn'

1 26 The form Ratholite for Katholit, is used in popular

language only

l 29 (Sott գութ) (end, but), &c) is an old familiar form of salutation, still frequently heard, especially in Southern Germany. The veib guißen may in this phrase be rendered by 'to bless,' or 'to save'

1 30 Sich mit Jemand nicht abgeben, 'to have nothing to do

with any one'

P 33, 1 r The expression Schutbu, seems to correspond here more to the English 'clerk,' than to 'secretary'

1 3 Bation, may here be rendered by 'employer'

1 4 Jemand und Handweit pfuschen, 'to dabble in any one's

business, profession, &c

15 The abbreviated for m Bapf for Bapfen, is used figuratively for a drunkard, Branntwengapf signifies therefore 'a dramdrinken,' and should be translated here by 'a regular drunkard,' or simply by 'a drunkard' Grimm, Sanders, and others, interpret the word in this sense, and we cannot agree with those who understand by Branntwengapfen 'a publican'

1 8 Steden, here 'to put'

1 9 Junuer is, in this clause, used in the sense of 'certainly', rebensuerifi, 'worth speaking about'

I so Ich bent' auch, 'I should think so'

l 12 Vansen intimates that if any one now had heart or courage enough to act, and if there were some one to assist him (başu) with his advice, they could recover their needom. By the former he means, of course, the people who should first go into the fire, and by the latter he designates himself, he being ready to advise and enlighten them.

1 14 The ancient form herre for herr is sometimes used in

addressing people

1 17 Das (aft fid) heren is an idiomatic phrase for 'that is plausible enough,' 'there is some sense in that'

1 18 Det hat Liftiffe signifies idiomatically 'that is a sharp one'

1 19 Bergamente, lit 'parchments,' is also used metonymically for 'document' Buffe may here be rendered by 'charters'

1 21 Gerechtigkeiten is here synonymous with Brivilegien,

'privileges'

Auf etwas halten, 'to set great value on anything'

I 23 Guizelite, 'individual' The Netherlands consisted until the fourteenth century of several sovereign states or provinces, each of which was governed by its own prince, in accordance with its own laws

1 25 Regient must here be rendered by the imperfect of

'to govern

1 27 Uther die Schmin hauen, 'to go beyond the mark,' 'to overstep one's bounds,' is an idiomatic phrase, derived from mensuration, the term Schmin being used in this phrase for Meffchmin, 'measuring-line'

The expression States is here synonymous with Stanbe, 'states,' in the sense of 'legislative bodies', function, 'after it'

I 29 Sanbstante, 'legislative bodies,' 'assemblies' The constitutional principle was fought for and recognized in the Netherlands at an early period. In describing the advent of Philip, surnamed 'the Good,' in the early part of the fifteenth century, Motley says. 'The burgher class controlled the government, not only of the cities, but often of the provinces, through its influence in the estates' (Rise of the Dutch Republic, 142)

1 30 Cp p 137, the Note to p 12, 1 1

P 34, l r Redtichaffine is here used in the sense of 'respectable Sit unterrichtet say 'knows'

1 6 So was, translate 'these things'

1 8 So feth the Burgerssente, 'this is your usual way, citizens In her Tag huteinselven is an idiomatic phiase for 'to live on without thinking,' 'to live in the present only'

l io Utbitiommen is here used in the sense of empfangen, 'to receive' The trade of the parents used, as a matter of course, also to be carried on by their children

The expression Requestives for merly also used in a general sense for Requesting, 'government' Cp p 129, the Note to 1 25

I II Schallen unt walten, lit 'to rule and govern,' is one of those emphatic alliterative expressions with which the German language abounds, and which, consisting as they do of synonymous terms, should be rendered into English either by two equivalent synonyms or by one expressive term

equivalent synonyms or by one expressive term

I 12 The terms betformer and betfore do not refer in this sentence to the possessive eines Regenten, but are used to express separate notions, the political 'fire-brand' reproaching the citizens for not inquiring after the 'common law,' or 'old custom' (betformer), or into the 'history of the country' (beffore), or into the 'rights, or claims, of a Sovereign' (bem Regit eines Regenten) Cp the Note to l 25, p 26, where the obsolete term before has been used by Goethe in a different sense

l 13 lleber has here the force of 'in consequence'

1 20 The largest portion of the Netherlands fell into the hands of the House of Hapsburg, in consequence of the marriage between the Archduke Maximilian of Austria and the Lady Mary, daughter of Charles the Bold This was one of the 'prudent marriages,' which gave rise to the well-known saying, 'Bella gerant alu, tu felix Austria nube,' &c

1 21 See above, the Note to 1 11

l 26 Every Flemish province had its own constitution, and it was one of the privileges of the various provinces that their inhabitants were to be judged according to their respective provincial codes

1 29 Translate Bruffelt by 'citizen of Brussels,' and the proper names Antwerper and Genter in analogy with this

î endering

P 35, l r The neuter pronoun es (by elision 's) is frequently employed in German to denote in a general indefinite manner 'things,' 'matters,' &c

Wortlaufen, heie 'to run on'

1 2 The verb weifer, lit 'to show,' is in this phrase used

idiomatically for 'to treat'

Charles the Bold (1435—1477) inherited from his father, Philip the Good, the then united portions of the Netherlands He was in constant collision with the Netherlanders, whose political rights he relentlessly endeavoured to suppress The Citizens defended their institutions bravely, but their entire

suppression was probably only pievented by the sudden death of the reckless wairior

1 3 The mention of Frederick the Warrice in this place, is generally considered very puzzling, there having existed no sovereign of the name of Frederick, surnamed the 'Warnor' And on account of this circumstance, Schiller went even so far as to omit that unhistorical name in his stage edition of Egmont We think however that Goethe must have meant here Frederick III, Emperor of Germany, who, in 1488, raised with great alacrity an aimy for the rescue of his son Maximilian, then a pusoner of the burghers of Bruges The royal captive had in the meantime been set at liberty on promising various concessions to the Flemings These concessions were afterwards declared null and void, and the Emperor besieged in person, but without success, the city of Ghent The mention of Frederick seems, therefore, more appropriate here than that of Maximilian would be, who finally succeeded in tranquillizing the Netherlands, and the unhistorical designation of the monarch, who was anything but warlike, may be explained by the circumstance that Goethe made the incendiary clerk purposely use the martial surname in order to make the contrast between the Emperor and the female Regent more striking By omitting the words Triebrich ber Rrieger, the speech loses in rhythm as well as in force

1 4 The taunt which Goethe puts into the mouth of the lawyer's clerk is partially based on the question which some of the nobles addressed to the Regent when she intended to enforce the introduction of the Inquisition into Flanders 'Will the people of Biabant,' they asked, 'who shook off the yoke of Charles V, and who did not submit to it dui ing the presence of Philip, now stoop under it at the command of a Regent who is a woman?' (Biabantini, qui sub Carolo Caesare frenum excusserant, et presente Philippo Rege non receperant, nunc ad Gubernati icis feminae vocem, millud sese induerent? Strada,

1 p 6o)

Il 8—ro The incident here alluded to does by no means refer, as has rather oddly been interpreted, to the above-related capture of Maximilian, but to that of his son Philip, of whom the burghers took possession when he was only four vears of age. After the death of the Lady Mary in 1482, her husband Maximilian was to be governor and guardian during the minority of his children, but the Flemish demurred, and after they had captured the heir apparent, the government was carried on in the name of the minor by a commission of burghers

1. 12 Rechte Manner, 'men of the right sort'

l 13 Dafut. after and, may here be rendered by 'and hence it is that '

1 18 Wit Brabanter, 'we people of Brabant' It is a wellknown fact in the history of the Netherlands that the province of Brabant enjoyed, together with that of Limburg, special political privileges in consequence of the very liberal Charter which it received in the fourteenth century, and which is known in history by the name of the 'Joyeuse Entrée' ('blyde inkomst,' i e 'blithe entrance') It is worthy of remark that the leading features of the Brabant constitution which are so skilfully interwoven in the dramatic dialogue, do not only actually occur in the 'Joyeuse Entiée,' but have been taken by the poet, with some slight verbal alterations, from the German translation of Meteren's History of the Netherlands, viz the articles contained in Il 24, 25, and in Il 29-31, and in p 36, ll 21-23 The statement about the excellence of the Brabant Charter over that of all other provinces is given by Meteren in the introductory remarks to the famous Constitu-(See Meteren, Geschichte der Niederlande, p 47, and the original Dutch edition, fol 30)

1 28 Ci ist une veryflichtet, 'he is bound to us'

1 29 &t—laffen, 'he is not to exercise in respect of us any force or arbitiary will, or give any sign of it'

P 36, 1 11 Das Wort fuhren, 'to be spokesman'

l 13 See the Note to l 4, p 13, on p 137 l 15 In den Hall, 'down his throat'

1 17 Wer thur etwas thut, 'who dares touch him'

ll 21-23 The article contained in these lines is given by Motley in these words, 'that the prince of the land should not elevate the clerical state higher than of old has been customary and by former princes settled, unless by the other two estates, the nobility and the cities' (Rise of the Dutch Republic, vol 1 p 270)

1 31 Gemand ins Bockshorn jagen is an idiomatic phrase toi

'to intimidate, to overawe, any one'

P 37, 1 3 The political instigator who wishes to induce the people to commit excesses, alludes here to the iconoclastic outrages which originated in Flanders

1 10 The term Welahite is the obsolete form for Welchite

1 13 Bas foll bas, 'what do you mean by that?'

1 15 Eauft zu, 'come i unning up'

l 16 Tiethen allerlet Schaffspoffen, 'play all sorts of pranks' Subilitien, 'to humah' We cannot help calling the attention of the reader to the exquisite though concise description of

the tumult, which the poet characterizes with a few masterly touches

l 21 °° ' 'part them'

e Note to 1 20, p 5 1 24

1 25 Was fangt Ihi an, 'what are you about?'

- 1 28 An may here be rendered by 'about,' and Gewerbe by 'business'
- 1 29 Teters, here 'to keep holiday' Egmont's saying bears a slight resemblance to the speech which Shakespeare puts into the mouth of Flavius in the opening scene of his Julius Caesai -

'Hence! home, you idle creatures, get you home,

Is this a holiday?'

Egmont's conversation with the citizens about their trade seems likewise to be, in its general outlines, a poetical reminiscence of the parley between the tribunes Flavius and Maiullus and the 'rabble of citizens'

P 38, l 3 Berhummen, 'to destroy' l 6 Eines Beichins, 'your calling' The genitive of Beichen in connection with the name of a trade (or profession) is used to denote the nature of the employment of a person, e.g. Ci tst seines Zeichens ein Zimmeineister, 'he is a carpenter by trade' The origin of this idiomatic phrase is to be found in the custom of mechanics, traders, &c to hang up a sign (Beidin) in front of their place of business, indicating the nature of their trade or employment

1 12 The preposition init expresses here 'co-operation,' z thi habt mit generate, 'you assisted in making' viz the habt mit

1 14 The expression Smale is here used elliptically for 'it is (oi, I consider it) a high favour'

I 16 Was an Cuch ift, 'all that is in your power'

1 17 Uebel angeschrieben sein is an idiomatic expression soi 'to be in bad odour,' 'to stand in bad i epute'

1 19 Didentition, here 'respectable'

- The exclamation Ach wohl, may be rendered here by 'oh yes'
- 1 22 Tagdi b or Tagedieb is a characteristic expression for 'idler', it denotes literally 'one who robs the very day,' i e one who makes a wrong use of his time Coffir is the vulgar form for Gaufer

Mit ener Gnaden Berland say 'by your gracious leave'

I 23 Du franten aus Langenwelle, 'they spread nots for want of something to do' The term Langewelle, corresponds to the French 'ennuse'

Scharren . nach, 'scrape foi,' 'iake up.'

- l 24. Temand etwas (01 was) voilugen, 'to tell lies to some one '
  - 1 25. Bezahlt zu furgen, here 'to be treated to' 1 27 Das—wecht, 'that is just what they want'
- l 29 The sentiments expressed by the carpenter are in accordance with the then prevalent opinion that the modern Iconoclasts were bent upon pillage and robbery Cp p 150, the Note to 1 8, p 31
- l 32 Egmont was sincerely devoted to the Roman Catholic faith, and his admonition to make a firm stand against the 'foreign creed'—as the new doctrines were then called—fully harmonizes with his religious conviction

P 39, 1 2 Ene-rottin, 'crowds assemble in the streets'

- 1 7 Sat so musted Spanishers, 'there is nothing Spanish about him'. The position of gar before so in this phrase is not quite usual
  - 1 9 Cp p 9, 1 15, and the Note referring to it 1 II Das—fetti, 'the king will never do that'

1 12 Mit ben Seinigen, 'with his own kindled'

- 1 16 (Stn เหตุปเซ โน้โก่น, 'a fine morsel' โนะกัน is here the vulgar expression for Biffen
  - 1 18 Was found on em, 'what are you thinking of?'

1 20 Es ist min nun so, 'but so it is with me' 1 21 Widen Willen, 'against my own will'

Der ist gut kopfen, 'that would suit well for the headsman'

1 24 Duckel for Nucleu is, according to Grimm, mostly used when the 'back' has been exposed to some ill-treatment Cp p 72, I 29, and p 76, I 13

1 25 Mit Ruthen freichen, 'to beat with rods'

Entredit Banft say 'a portly person' The literal translation is 'a big paunch'

1 26 Am Pfahl, 'at the stake'

- l 27 3wutt-Glubenu, 'I feel twitching pains in all my limbs'
- l 30 Some recent German editions have gebaunt for ge biannt. We have given the preference to the latter version, because it occurs in the first original edition of 1787, and because the word gebaunt, 'spell-bound,' seems too refined an expression for the general tenor of the speech. In making Jetter give utterance to his morbid teelings, the poet describes, with a masterly touch which shows his deep insight into human nature, the fatal influence which a reign of terror exercises on the minds of men. By constantly witnessing the most harrowing punishments, Jetter declares that he cannot be cheerful for a single hour, and he 'soon lorgets all fun and

merriment', his imagination is excited to such a degree that 'fearful visions are, as it were, branded on his forehead'

P 40, l 3 The adverb unum denotes here the continuity of Egmont's absence It may therefore be rendered by 'still,'

to be placed at the beginning of the sentence

1 6 The idiomatic phrase, Es breunt mit unter ben Sohlen, corresponds to the English, 'I feel the ground burning under my feet'

1 7 Auf die Stunde da sein, 'to be punctual to the hour'

l 9 Jemand buid bu Junger sehen is one of the many idiomatic phrases connected with the word Junger It denotes 'to wink at some negligence or fault'

l 10 hielt ich's beffer, 'I should prefer,' 'I'd rather'

- l 14 Ben et unterwegs, &c 'of whom he may have caught hold on his way 'Bv this supposition Goethe wishes to indicate the sociable disposition of Egmont, and his affable communicative character
  - l 16 Cp p 153, the note to l 1, p 35 l 26 St ift mu gunz wekt, 'I 1ather like' P 41, l 1 Auswarts, here 'from abroad'
- I 6 The whole of the following conversation reflects Egmont's character in its brightest colours. It shows his humane disposition, his strict sense of justice, and his indulgent and forbearing mind, but above all, the principal feature of his character, his impulsive carelessness and love of hie for its own sake
- 1 7 The name of the captain is, like all the other proper names mentioned in this scene, fictitious. The expression Melaticii from the Latin 'relatio,' is used in official language for Benifit, 'report'

l 9 The tumult here referred to is the iconoclastic outbreak which took place in Flanders during Egmont's absence

Cp p 17, ll 11-17, and the Note referring to them

l 10 llingezogenheiten may be 1endered by 'acts of misconduct,' and Eullinhuheiten translated by the singular number of its equivalent

1 15 Beinith is the original Flemish or German name for

the modern French 'Verviers,' a town in Flanders

l 17 'Count Egmont also,' says Schiller, in his History of the Revolt of the Netherlands, 'to manifest his zeal for the king's service, did violence to his natural kind-heritedness Introducing a garrison into the town of Ghent, he caused some of the most refractory rebels to be put to death'

l 23 Comines, or rather Commines, lies on both sides of the river Lys, which forms there the boundary between

France and Belgium Before French Flanders was ceded to France it belonged entirely to the Netherlands

1 29 Cunnehmer denotes a receiver of taxes, tolls, &c , but may here be sendered by 'steward'

1 30 Translate here ouf by 'within'

P 42 1 1 Muß heibet, 'must be procured' The verbs geschafft werden are here to be understood

1 7. Septe et sid felbst, 'he fixed himself,' 'he stated his

own time

l 12 Gi-Ginft, 'he is sui e to set about it in earnest'

1 15. Guadengehalt, 'pension' Gebüht, here 'allowance.' 'salary'

1 16. Rath schaffen, 'to devise some expedient'

Su-emuchten, 'let them shift as well as they can'

1 22. Auf etwas benfen, is frequently used in the signification of 'to consider how to manage a thing'

1 25. Auf etwas anders finnen, 'devise something else'

1 28 Count Oliva is a fictitious character

1 30. Sen may here be freely rendered by 'count'

P 43, l. 1 Ich fomme mat base, denotes, in the sense in which it is used here, 'I cannot find time for it'

Unter vielem Berhaften, 'of all detestable things'

1 5 Bedenflichfeit, heie 'apprehension'

1 7. Sagt—Dienning, 'give me an outline of your ideas'

1 14. Sinten, with reference to a battle, 'in the rear'

1 15. English, 'apprehensive man' The article and the inflection make in German the meaning sufficiently clear

(S) will say 'he is anxious for '

1 18 Suh mahien, 'to be on one's guard'

1 23 So-bu, 'you may do so'

1 25 Rafd febe, 'live gaily' The popular expression 'to live fast' corresponds to the German raid leben, but here it would be a vulgarism, if used in that sense

1 28 1 ( \(\cdot\) is habe in the preceding line refer also

to nicht Lust

1 29 Bedachtigen Hof Cadenz, 'solemn measures of the court. The expression bof Cabens is a coined word, used here to designate the stiff manner of life prescribed by the Spanish court etiquette The term mustein (mach), 'to model' (according to), is not of frequent occurrence

1 30 11m-benfen, 'to trouble myself about life ' Cp above,

the Note to l 22, p 42

P 44, 1 6 Die leif' er ench beruhrt, 'with what delicacy he treats you'

1 8 11nb—Saite, 'vet he harps continually on this string' It is rather difficult to render in English the delicate play on the word becübien in this and the preceding line

1 14 The sentiment contained in this line reminds us of

Goethe's admirable saying

Eines schickt fich nicht fin alle! Cehe jeder wie er's treibe. Sehe jeder mo er bleibe, Und wer fteht, daß er nicht falle!

1 15 The secretary wishes to intimate, that it lies in Egmont's nature to be free from care, that 'it suits him well to be without fears?

1 18 Leichtem may here be rendered by 'lively'

1 19 Nebermuth der Geschlafeit, 'overflow of conviviality'

Genteben, 'done'
1 20 The expression Folgen, is here a synonym of Folgering, 'conclusion'

ll 22-25 These lines refer to a well-known incident in the troubled pages of the history of the Netherlands The following summary extracted from the account given by Prescott (Philip II, vol i p 440) will suffice for the present purpose 'At a banquet at which many of the Flemish nobles were present, the talk fell on the expensive habits of the austocracy, especially as shown in the number and dress of their do-It was proposed to regulate their apparel by a more modest and uniform standard The lot fell on Egmont to devise some suitable livery, of the simple kind used by the Germans He proposed a dark grey habit, which, instead of the arguillettes commonly suspended from the shoulders, should have flat pieces of cloth, embroidered with the figure of a head and a fool's cap The head was made marvellously like that of the cardinal (Gianvelle), and the cap, being red, was thought to bear much resemblance to a cardinal's hat diess was received with acclamation. The nobles instantly clad their retainers in the new livery, which had the advantage of greater economy It became the badge of party tailors of Brussels could not find time to supply their customers (Cp Egmont, p 38, ll 12, 13) The Duchess at first laughed at the jest, and even sent some specimens of the embroidery to Philip But Granvelle looked more gravely on the matter Margaret at length succeeded in persuading the lords to take another (device), not personal in its nature. The substitute was a sheaf of airows Even this was found to have an offen-

sive application as it intimated the league of the nobles? Il 27-30 This is an allusion to the celebrated designation of Gueux, 'beggars,' which the confederate Flemish noblemen assumed in 1566 After having presented a petition to the Regent, some three hundred of them were told at a banquet that the Seigneur de Beilaymont had called them 'gueux,' in the presence of the Regent Biederode, the president of the banquet, declared that 'he and his friends had no objection to the name, since they were ready at any time to become beggars for the service of their king and country, (Se vero liberter appellationem illam, quae ea cumque esset, accipere, ac regis patriaeque causa Gheusios se mendicosque re ipsa futuros, Strada, 1 p 187, where the whole occurrence is related in full) The guests received 'that sally with great applause, and as they drank to one another they shouted vivent les Gueux, "Long live the beggars" The Prince of Orange, and the Counts Egmont and Hoin were passing by chance the Culemberg House, where the banquet took place, they entered with a view to break up the revels, and 'as the new comers pledged their friends in the wine-cup, it was received with the same thundering acclamations of "Vivent les Gueux!"' The confederates assumed then the insignia of poverty, and appeared in public in coarse clothing with beggar's wallets and wooden bowls

Illuname may here be rendered by 'nickname'

1 31, &c. Sund-missonnen, 'aie we to be grudged the scanty, motley rags' Muth may here be rendered by 'spirit' P 45, 1 r Render angefrischte by 'animated,' and mag by ' would '

1 5 Wohl-weith, worth the trouble of dressing and undressing? 1 6, &c um zu rathen und zu verbinden, 'to guess and conjecture' Greathen has a more emphatic meaning than rathen, and may be rendered by 'divine'

1 8 Schenfin is here used in the sense of 'to omit, to spare' 1 9 Schuler seems to be used here in the sense of Repart.

'pedant'

ll 10, 11. The expressions sinnen and questimen refer to Edulery, and the remaining portion of the sentence to Soflingen, but in order to understand fully the right meaning of this passage, it must also be borne in mind that finite is here an intransitive verb signifying 'to ponder,' 'ruminate,' and aus: tunen a transitive verb meaning 'to find out by thinking,' 'to contrive,' 'devise,' &c In the same way the words gelangen wohin fit funnen, 'arrive at any place they like,' express the transitive meaning of manbeln, 'to walk gently,' and enfollermen, 'to obtain surreptitiously,' the transitive signification of fcleichen, 'to sneak'

1 16 Sie laffen will, 'is about to let it go'

ll 20-23 Wie—gepeitscht, 'as if lashed ' Gehen—buch, 'rush away' Wagen, here 'chai iot' Muthig gesaßt, 'with calm self-possession.'

1 24 Stur; signifies not only 'fall,' but also 'steep descent'

'precipice'

l 25 Co gift say 'we hasten' The pronoun at in the following sentence refers to man in general, it may be rendered

by 'men,' or by the pronoun 'we'

1 28 It has been remarked that there is a perfect lambic movement in the first portion of the present speech. This is also, in a great measure, the case with the preceding speech of Egmont, and with many other passages throughout the drama too numerous to be pointed out.

1 32, &c Ja-Schutt, 'a false step of my own '

P 46, 1 3 2008, here 'die' Egmont is known to have shared valuantly all the dangers of warfare with his comrades

1 4 Wenn's—geht, 'when the whole worth of a free life

is at stake '

1 10 Das Andere hat Beit, 'the rest may wait.'

1 13 Southe, here 'try to find out' Cp the Note to 18, p 32

1 1.4 This statement is based on the account given by Strada (1 p 223) of the effort made by the Regent not to show a woman's weakness by her grief ('haud palam moerori muliebriter indulsit,' &c)

l 16 See on William of Orange the Note to p 11, l 29

1 18 The expression fire is here used in the sense of heter, fragenfier, 'cheerful,' 'at ease'

1 27 With may here be rendered by 'turned,' and Distins.

in the next line, by 'topic'

P 47, l 6 This is an allusion to the well-known mythological tale that Hercules was spinning wool whilst he was a slave to the Lydian queen, Omphale, who wore his lion's skin

1 7 Kuntellye is a coined expression, composed of Kuntel, 'distaff,' and Kuf, 'court' It approaches in meaning the expression 'petticoat government,' and may be rendered here by 'spinning court circle'

I so The conjunction 'that' is to be supplied before but unbuggen, 'the most discordant,' because the words but much ten

immer gern (1 4) refer also to the present clause

1 13 Unweisheit, here 'unwise conduct'

1 16 Dasmal is here, as in some other instances, used by Goethe for businal

l 18 The Regent had at three different times made preparations to leave Brussels

I 19 Supply the words 'she is' before Stattsafteum The expression Romain is here used to denote, in general, the exalted position occupied by the Regent

l 21 Առնածարնան Անոցա անչունականան, to spin out an insignificant life' The verb աննական denotes literally to reel off' (yain, &c), and is here happily used by Goethe to express the

slow monotony of an inactive life

l 22 Sth—իրասույոլանիարը, 'to drag on her existence in the old family circle' Margaret of Parma was, as stated before, first married to Alexander der Medici, and after his death to Ottavio Farnese

I 31 Buiecht juden, 'to arrange'

P 48, l 2 The noun Substitut is more commonly used in the neuter than in the feminine gender

1 5 Auch thm translate 'with him also'

1 6 Shen Sang halten, 'hold on their (ordinary) course' The verb methen is understood in the German phrase

1 7 Wests should here be sendesed by 'vast,' and sade out' worggogenes, in the next line, by 'according to a marked out'

- I 13 The Prince alludes here to the possibility of depriving the people, which he designates by Munipf, 'trunk,' 'body,' of their leaders, whom he calls their Spaint, 'head'
- 1 16 Render here tage by 'have had,' and her by 'for,' placing the latter word before viele

l 17 Verhaltnisse say 'concerns'

I 22 Goethe has here most adminably adapted a saying of Orange which has been reported by Strada, i p 234. After quoting the statement of the Prince that he was fully acquainted with every word which Philip II uttered, either in public or private, and that he could not better employ his riches than by buying those useful state secrets, Orange is reported by Strada to have added 'For it constitutes the wisdom of a Prince, to find out the secrets of the councils and to leave the mysteries of nature to idle persons' (Quippe banc esse Principum philosophiam, conciliorum secreta rimari naturae vero abdita apud otiosos relingui)

1 25 Mit etwas austommen denotes figuratively 'to get on

with anything'

1 28, &c &s—formmen, 'the world cannot be set to rights' **P 49**, l 1 The Prince of Orange now states more explicitly what he had before (p 48, l 30) only hinted at

I 4 Go ift feine Soige, 'there is no fear of that,' 'there is

no cause for such anxiety?

1 8 Auf unfere Art, 'aiter our own fashion.' Unter emander, here 'between ourselves'

I so The verb abwagen is here used in the sense of 't balance,' for Orange wishes to intimate that they well know how 'to distinguish their own rights from those of the king'

l II Unterthan und gewärtig sein, 'to be obedient and loyal

Ihm zufommt say 'is his due'

1 13 Sich zuschriebe, 'should arrogate'

1 17. Cp p 20, 1 8, and the Note referring to that passage 1 21, &c Egmont believed so firmly in the elemency and

l 21, &c Egmont believed so firmly in the clemency and humane disposition of Philip II, that he laughed at all the warnings of his friends

1 29, &c Վորբեսնա, 'to raise', Մասանիաստի, 'breath of wind, 'breeze'

l 31 Büthe—sufammentieben, 'would cause a mightconflagration,' 1 e the news of their capture would drive together (sufammentieben) all the combustible elements o political discontent, and thus cause a mighty conflagration

1 32 Mohmans wollten fie, 'whither could they tend?' 'wha

could be their intention?

- P 50, 1 r Ilib—Geben, 'and would they have recourse to assassination' We do not consider it improbable that Goethe has put these words into the mouth of Egmont in remembrance of the various attempts which were subsequently made at the instigation of Philip II, on the life of the Prince of Orange, and of his ultimate tragic death by the hands of the assassin Gérard in 1584
- l 2 Supply 'it' after wellen In the following lines Egmont almost describes prophetically the result which was partly brought about by his own violent death and by that of his fellow-sufferer, Count Horn

1 6 Wuthete is here, like fiosse in the next line, the present

conditional

1 12 Cp the note to 1 22, p 48, on preceding page

1 13 The verb wossent is in this place nearly equivalent to 'to maintain,' 'to assert,' 'to pretend', translate therefore wossent wise night wisen by 'pretended not to know it'

l 14 The Regent was, according to Strada (1 p 29), strongly opposed to the arrival of Alva with an army, and in a letter which she addressed to the King she plainly tells him that a new army would only contribute to impoverish the country and produce a civil war—which view Goethe has, in the next speech, put into the mouth of Egmont

l 19 It is historically known that the Prince was acquainted with the fact that Alva came to the Netherlands with deathwarrants signed in blank, intended against the most prominent

leaders

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P 51, l 12 Muhfelig, 'with difficulty' Gefillt, 'kept down' l 13 Mit Cinem Binfe, 'by a single sign' Mufheben, 'to excite,' 'to stir up'

1 15 Handlung, for Handel, 'commerce,' is now not very

frequently used

1. 16 Feld is here used for Schlachtfeld

l 17, &c Goethe describes here the horrible incidents which subsequently took place during the sanguinary struggle between the Netherlanders and the Spaniards

l 21, &c Unb-mußt, 'and what will be your feelings when

you must confess to yourself'

1 24 Cingelne Menschen, 'single men,' 1 e mere individuals

1 29 Namely, he who does not act by mere impulse, but is always guided in his actions by a thoughtful watchfulness over himself, need not suspect his own courage, and can 'with confidence advance and retreat' (fifter note into influents getjen), that is to say, he well knows when to spare himself and when to act otherwise

P 52, l 3 Rommt in Anschlag translate 'should be

taken into account' Leubteste, here 'faintest'

l 5 Չայնդնա, lit 'gentlest', here 'smellest' Ծանկակ, 'step,' 'footing'

l 13 The import of this saying is that the actions of kings are never interpreted as mean, because people always attribute to them higher motives

I 16 Brobe, here 'experiment' Abwarten, 'to await'

l 20 Supply the word 'own' between memen and Augen In German the emphasis is sufficiently indicated by means of the possessive pronoun

l 28 Oιfialt, form, 'shape,' may here be rendered by 'light'

1 30 For besitsen, cp p 148, the Note to 1 17, p 26

1 31 Dault does not mean here 'force,' but 'power,' authority'

l 32 Whi beine Frembe gefaßt finb, 'in what frame of mind your friends are' The Prince seems to place greater confidence in the clear-sighted judgment of Egmont's friends,

than in that of the confiding Count himself

P 53, l 9 The above scene is mainly based on the memorable meeting which took place between Egmont and Orange at Willbroek, a village between Antweip and Brussels, in 1567 Egmont had received the mission from the Regent to persuade his friend not to withdraw from the Netherlands Count Mansfeldt, and Berty, the Regent's secretary, were present at the interview, which is fully described by Strada (1 p 268), who concludes his report with the following remarkable

passage 'It is related that, before parting, the Prince of Orange led Egmont aside and spoke to him of the danger which threatened him, imploring him not to await the bloody tempest which was about to buist forth from Spain over the heads of the most distinguished Flemish nobles. And when Egmont, fully relying on his services and unmindful of every danger, dissented, asserting that he hoped everything from the clemency of the King, when he found order restored in the provinces, Orange exclaimed "This clemency of the King which you so extol, will be your ruin, Egmont, and I foresee with my mind's eye (would that I might be deceived!) that over your body, as a bridge, the Spaniards will enter the country" After these words he closely embraced him, as if he were sure that his presentiment was to become a truth, and that he saw the Count for the last time, and tears fell from the eyes of both of them' (Ferunt Orangium, antequam inde recederet, cum Egmontio seorsim abducto de imminentibus periculis locutum, orasse illum, subduceret sese, gravidamque ci uoi e tempestatem ab Hispania impendentem Belgai um pi ocei um capitibus ne opperiretur Et cum Egmontius meritis ferox eoque periculi negligens, conti a dissereret, ac Regis clementiae, si pacatas reperiret provincias, omnia tribueret Perdet te, inquit Oi angius, haec quam jactas clementia Regis Egmonti, ac videoi milii praevidere animo, utinam falso, te pontem scilicet futurum, quo Hispani calcato, in Belgium transmittant Ouo dicto tamquam pi aesagationis certus, hominemque supremum visurus, ai cte, nec sine utriusque lacrymis complexus, abscessit)

l II Cuntommum is here used in the sense of cinfullen, 'to occur,' 'to enter one's mind' The words in ben Sum are

understood in German

1 12 Tragt heruber, 'transfers' Sorglichfeit, 'anxiety'

## Dritter Aufzug

 ${f P}$  56, 1 5 Bor fid hinlest may be rendered by 'leads a life of,' placing these words before Müße, and omitting the preposition in

l 10. It is hardly necessary to mention that the Regent

refers to the abdication of Charles V

1 13 Heber etwas benten, for nachbenten, is not very com-

monly used

l 14 The letter here alluded to 111 general was the one which the Regent had received from the King, about the end of June, 1567, in reply to her remonstrances about the mission

of Alva, who was already on his way to the Netherlands The King politely thanked his sister, for having set the things to rights by her assiduity and prudence' (Ob res impigre sapienterque compositas ) Strada, i p 292

1 20 Jemand viel zu schaffen machen, 'to give much trouble to

any one'

P 57, 1 2 The adverb form is here used in the sense of 'politely' In characterizing the letter alluded to, Goethe seems to have had in view the billet in which the King informed his sister, under date October 13, 1568, that her resignation was accepted The praise he meted out to the Regent was couched in such conventional and measured terms that M de Thou remarks in his Histoire Universelle (v p 439). 'Elle reçut enfin d'Espagne une lettre pleme d'amitié et de tendresse, telle qu'on a coûtume d'écrire à une personne qu'on remercie après l'avoir dépouillé de sa dignite '

1 4 Philip II had, at various times, expressed his full satis-

faction with the Regent's 'prudent' administration
l 10 Gingang, here 'preamble' The following passage is partly based on the speech which Alva is reported to have made at the last meeting of the State Council in Madrid, which was held, according to Strada, in order to discuss the propriety of interfering in the Netherlands with an armed force

1 14 Lastet, 'lies heavily' Beibietet ihm say 'will prevent

him'

1 15 Große Sprunge machen is a figurative phrase, here it

denotes 'to move freely'

1 16. Macchiavell's reply contains the gist of the views expressed by Ruy (Mobilid) Gomez at the above-mentioned State Council Cp p 58, 1 13

1 20 Nation (or Bernunft) annehmen, 'to listen to reason' fertig werben foune, 'will soon be able to manage '

1 25 Bold is here used in the sense of 'probably'

- 1 30 Gerab' heraus, 'straightforwardly,' or simply 'out' P 58, 1 r Modite mich verstellen, 'should like to dissemble,'
- 1 e the Regent would like to conceal the irritation she feels at the double-faced behaviour of the king

l 2 Empfindlich is here a synonym of schmeizhaft, 'painful' 1 3 Formitch, 'formal,' 'conventional'

1 6. Inwendig und answendig, lit 'internally and externally,' 1 e thoroughly

1 7. Sie-haben, 'they would like to make a clean sweep

of it'

1 8 Sue—juguesfen, 'they do not set about it themselves' This seems to be an allusion to Philip's reluctance to go himself with an armed force to the Netherlands, after having been told that the Flemings threatened to resist his entrance openly with the help of foreign allies Cp Stiada, i p 281, where the project of the loyal journey is candidly discussed by the author.

I so The foreign term Constil (to be pronounced as in French) for the Teutonic Rath or Stanfauth, is used both in

the masculine and neuter gender

1 11 Lebhaft, here 'vividly,' 'distinctly'

1 12. Bug, in the present signification, 'feature'

- ll 13-16 The description of the members of the royal council is partly only historical By 'honest Roderick,' the poet designates Ruy Gomez de Silva, whom Strada (1 p. 283) calls-'a man who loved peace and quiet before all things' (cui pax et quies imprimis curae), and by the 'diligent Freneda, is designated the royal confessor and Franciscan monk Bernard Fresneda, whom that historian charactenzes as 'a man of gentle and upright character' (miti rectoque vir ingenio) Both these councillors spoke at the above-mentioned final consultation warmly in favour of a policy of peace The names of Alonzo and Las Vargas do, however, not occur among the royal councillors enumerated by Strada or the Spanish historian Cabrera, who describes the same meeting One Alonzo de Laloo was secretary to Count Horn, and one Francis de Vargas was Spanish ambassador at Rome Juan de Vargas made himself notorious as President of the 'Blood Council' in the Netherlands According to our opinion Goethe has given a generally favourable description of the State Council in order to bring out in stronger relief the hateful character of Alva
- 1 17 By the 'hollow-eyed Toledan,' Goethe designates the Duke of Alva, whose first name was Ferdinando Alvarez de Toledo He is described by Meteren (book v) and by other historians as a man who was in person 'tall, thin, erect, with a long visage, lean yellow cheek, dark twinkling eyes, adust complexion—cross-looking and 11g1d.'

1 19 Weibergute, 'womanish kindness'

- 1 21 Stallmetite, lit 'equerry,' may here be rendered by 'horse-breaker'
- l 22 Sabe unt burchhören mussen 'have been obliged to listen patiently' Durchhoren signifies 'to listen to anything until the end'
- l 23 Emen quien Farbentopf say 'good colours' Farbentopf denotes literally 'colour-pot,' i.e. the pot in which painters mix their colours

1 25 3n-founte 'among all my tints, which I could use for my picture' Ion, here 'hue'

Gallenschwarz, 'jaundice-like' l 27

Aus be may here be rendered by 'with which'

Sever if ber thin gleich ein, 'he sets down every one at once as a ' 1 29 Aus biefim Kapitel, 'under this head ' The term Kapitel is used in German also for 'topic,' 'subject,' 'head,' &c Cp the use of 'chapitre' in French

P 59, l 1 Da—Muthwillen, 'now he takes hold of every wanton act'

- unb-voll, 'and the King sees before him nothing but '
  - 1 5 Wenn-Ungerogenheit, 'when a quickly passing offence'

1 6 Fassen, here 'to conceive'

1 10 The sentiments attributed by the Regent to the King and the Duke of Alva are, in general, expressed in the speech of the latter as reported by Strada at the above-mentioned meeting of the loval council

1 12 Sod may here be rendered by 'seriously'

Beibigngen, 'to supplant,' 'to dislodge' Bestallung, 'office'

1 17 Educt, 'crooked,' 1 e not straightforward

Ilm fid) quifen, 'stretch his authority,' 'become encroaching' portduten, 'he will allege that he has' l 18 With er

1 20 Semand hermuzichen, fig 'to put off any one'

Sch-rebete, this does not satisfy me he will pay no attention to what I say' The expression gar micht mehr thun has the sense of 'to take no account of ' The verb haben

in 1 24 refers also to gethan

- 1 24 Weit abwarts geleutt, 'turned far away,' 1 e Alva would entirely frustrate all her cherished wishes and schemes It may be observed here that the mode of proceeding on the part of Alva, described here by the Duchess beforehand, is, in general, historical At his first interview with the Regent, Alva is said to have coolly declared that he did not exactly remember the nature and extent of his powers Next day, however, he produced his commission (Infiliation) in which he was appointed by Philipp Captain-General 'in correspondence with his Majesty's dear sister of Parma' The Duchess was requested in this document 'to co-operate with Alva and to command obedience for him, but step by step he became more and more encroaching, until the Regent's authority was a mere shadow ' See Motley's Rise of the Dutch Republic, vol ii p 115
  - 1 30 Supply the words 'the blame of' before feine Schulb 1 32, &c The Regent at first contrived 'to disguise her

rage and her mortification under a veil of imperial pride', but being greatly enraged at the arbitrary proceedings of Alva and her own false position, she gave, later, free vent to her indignation

P 60, 1 4 Supply 'it is,' before Schwerer

l 5 Bu's heighlight hat may here be rendered by 'he with whom it is hereditary'

1 8 Ansehn, here 'authority'

l 10 In her last letter to Philip II, which the Regent transmitted to Spain through the courtier Macchiavell, she actually asked him 'whether he considered it worthy of a person whom the king calls his sister, to be left in Belgium with so little authority?' Cp Strada, 1 p 301

1 14 Sie-Helbengeschichten, 'that it was to be found only

in romances'

1 19 Umgang say 'attachment'

l 26, &c Langin is here to be rendered by 'longing,' հաղար by 'fearing,' and 3n (փյանասես Ֆուս by 'in painful suspense'

P 61, I 5 Ջոր համ Ֆրարաբան, 'stop that sing-song' The German Ֆրարաբան corresponds to the English 'lullaby' A number of German cradle-songs begin with that word.

l 15 lleberhorcht say 'heed not' l 18 lluterfriechen transl 'find shelter'

l 20 Dian vorzubenfen, 'to think of it beforehand.'

l 22 Uns gebaiden, 'bear ourselves'
P 62, l 1 Kleine transl 'daughter'

1 5 Bu viel Gnade say 'you do us too much honour'

1 9 Schmal genug, 'it will be scanty enough'

I so Whatet mm is here used elliptically, denoting 'only wait' (until you will see) Transl simply 'you will see'

Il 21-23 It is not easy to give a concise and terse rendering of these lines Semano etwas abliften signifies literally 'to gain something by cunning' Here etwas abliften may be rendered by 'to get the better of,' or simply 'to trick', fich sujamminimelimen, 'to collect oneself' (cp the Latin 'se colligere'), faft—Mine, 'wi aps himself up in his own arms, so to speak', faut—telf, 'ruminates his scheme' Reif fauen denotes literally 'to ruminate on a plan until it is quite mature'. Cp Shakespeare's 'to ruminate strange plots,' &c in Titus Andronicus, Act v Scene 2

P 63, 1 1 Buvoiderst also, 'first, then'

l 3 D je, 'dear me!'

- 1 5 Thi- Gud transl 'you will spoil your diess'
- 1 7 Ginmal—former, 'to come once diessed as a Spaniard, in Spanish fashion.'

1 9 Buther, 'since then,' viz since the time when Egmont had made his promise

1 12 Egmont had been created Knight of the Golden

Fleece by the Emperor Charles V

1 13 Betchen, here 'insignia' The Golden Fleece was suspended to the breast of the knights by a chain hanging round the neck

1 16 Cp the Note to 1 8, p 20

1 18 Michten, here 'sit in judgment'

Baffement-Arbeit, 'lace-work,' 'braiding,' 'fringe' is another way of spelling the same word. It is originally a Romance expression It 'passamento', Fr 'passement'

- l 21 Suf hun fatt, 'only look on to your hearts' content,' 'look your fill' The above admirable episode has been imitated by Walter Scott in his Kenilwoith (chapter vii), where the Earl of Leicester visits Amy Robsait in his magnificent court costume Goethe referred to this fact with the following words Walter Scott benubte eine Scene meines "Egmont" und er hatte ein Recht bagu, und weil es mit Beistand geschah, so ist er zu loben (Cefermann's Gesprache mit Goethe, 1 133)
- 1 24 The inscription on the Spanish Order (there exists also an Austrian Order) of the Golden Fleece was 'Pretium laborum non vile,' 'No common prize for work'

P 64, 1 3 Abnehmen, here 'to deduce,' 'to infer'

1 11 But mit the, is a familiar expression for 'on good terms with her'

1 16 Das-Sache say 'that makes no difference'

l 21 Eo qui feine, 'none at all', fo is here an expletive l 22 Sinterfult, here 'reserve'

1 23 Eest-Beit, 'deposits some sediment in the cask in the course of time' Weinstein signifies properly 'the tartar deposited by wine'

1 24 Dod may here be rendered by 'after all,' and immer

by 'constantly'

1 25 Mufaube, here 'problem' fich-gefest, 'got the credit'

1 26 Etwas Geheimes vorhaben, 'to harbour some secret design '

1 30 Supply the words 'she is a' before Regentin

P. 65, 1 2 Render here will by 'wants,' or 'is anxious'

1 3 Die is here used as a demonstrative pionoun, and should be rendered by 'in that,' or by 'in such a' Sid finden, here 'to get on '

1 4 Mber auch, 'but then,' which words are to be placed

before Ste

- 1 7 Menn's—geht, 'when matters do not go on too roughly'
- I 8 ઉર્દા— ઉત્રાદ્ભાશ, 'she is losing her composure,' 'she is a little disconcerted'
- l 12 Egmont's sketch of the Regent's character is based on the description which Strada (1 p 41) has given of her "She not only possessed a mind which surpassed the ordinary female standard, but also a certain gait and deportment by which she appeared more a man in female attire, than a woman endowed with a masculine spirit She was so strong, that in hunting the stag she used to change hoises in the field, which mode of hunting even strong men cannot always bear She had also a slight beard on her chin and upper lip, which impaited to her not only a masculine appearance, but also an air of authority. Nay, what is rarely found in women, except in very strong ones, she suffered also occasionally from gout' (Aderut er non modo animus muliebrem conditionem superegressus sed etiam babitus quidam coi poi is incessusque quo non tam femina soi tita viri spiritus, quam vii ementitus veste feminam videretur vires illi tantae, ut venaii vel cervos mutatis ad cui sim equis consuesset, cujusmodi venationi homines pei quam i obusti succum-Nec deerat aliqua mento superiorique labello barbula, ex qua virilis ei non magis species, quam auctoritas conciliabatui Immo, quod 1 aro in mulieres, nec nisi in praevalidas cadit, podagra idemtidem laboi abat)
  - 1 13 3ch scheute mich is the present conditional of sich scheuen,

'to be afraid'

1 16 Jungfiauliche Scham, 'girlish bashfulness'

I 26 The expression Bettungen is here by no means such an anachronism as is generally believed. The flying sheets or pamphlets which used to contain accounts of current events, and which represented the 'press' of those times, frequently contained the word Bettung, 'news,' in the superscription of the title of the occasional print. I have myself seen a primphlet issued on Aug. 14, 1557, which describes the battle of St. Quentin (cp. the Note to p. 8, 1, 9), and the title of which begins with the words. Buttungen, &c.

1 28 Das—micht, 'I am not he' In German the neuter bas is commonly used when a person or thing is to be denoted indefinitely

1 32. Schel Coment, &c, viz that Egmont who makes such a noise in the world—that Egmont who is a public personage

1 33 Det—muß, 'who must be reserved, and assume now this aspect, now that'

P 66, 1 5 In die Sohe getragen, 'extolled'

1 7 Die-mochten, who would like to harm him, by any means'

1 to Wie-ift, 'how it fares with that Egmont'

l 14 Duntzer 1 emarks with reference to the description of a 'double Egmont,' that it involuntarily reminds us of the delineation of a 'double Goethe,' which the poet gives in a letter addressed to Auguste von Stolberg. The letter alluded to, which occurs in a small volume entitled Giothi's Briffinedfiel into be Graffin A 311 Stolberg, contains the sketch of 'a hivolous Goethe, who moves in society, frequents balls and concerts,' &c and of 'a serious Goethe, who toils and strives onward and is full of enthusiasm for nature and poetry' After a careful perusal of the letter in question, it seems also to us probable that the characterization of 'a double Egmont,' is based on a personal reminiscence

# Vierter Aufzug

P 71, l 2 Of all the orders and decrees which are here mentioned as having been promulgated after the arrival of Alva, the one referring to the encouragement of denunciations is, alone, strictly historical — It was, however, published after the arrest of Egmont and Horn

1 7 Wai's-web, 'my heart sank directly'

l ir The gloomy state of Brussels after the entrance of Alva, which is so effectually represented in the present scene, has been most graphically described by Schiller in his Alfall bet Nieberlande. The following is a brief extract from the well-known description. Eine todie Stille herifolte jeht in Bruffel, bie nin zinveilen das inigewohnte Geraufch der Waffen unterbrach. Der Herzog war wenige Stunden in der Stadt, als sich seine Begleiter, gleich losgelassienen, Spurchunden nach allen Gegenden, zeistennen. Ohne, wie sonist, gesprachig berfammen zu virweilen, eilten Besannte an Besannten vorüber, man forderte seine Schrifte, sobald ein Spanier in den Staßin erichen. Zedis Gerausch zigte Schreiten ein als pochte schon Gerachtsbiener an der Pforte

1. 13 Render here Gelt by 'don't you think,' and cp

p 137, the Note to 1 28

1 15 &6-em, 'the heart becomes convulsed, compressed'

l 17 Retgenquab, lit 'as straight as a candle,' is used in German to indicate something perfectly straight and erect; it corresponds to the English, 'as straight as an arrow'

- 1 17 Em-find, 'all of them marching in step'
- 1 21 Sie-wohl, 'they do not please me at all'
- 1 23 Mit-Beinen, 'with their legs astride'
- 1 28 Anithlagen, here 'to level the gun'
- 1 29 Say—Tobis, 'I should be like a dead man'
- 1 31 Gs-qut 'it will not turn out well'
- P 72,16 The Regent did not leave Brussels until several months after the arrest of Egmont, but Goethe probably wished to let Alva henceforth appear as the sole ruler of the country By making the Regent retire from the scene of action, the dramatic effect in depicting the terror of the citizens, is greatly heightened

1 8 Die-noch, 'she was our last support'

1 9 The mode of the Regent's departure as described here, is not in accordance with history, but it fully tallies with the poet's dramatic conception of the subject. That the Duchess could not agree with Alva has been stated before

1. 16 Bittre ben Genich, 'smell the scent' Cp p 39

Il 20-30

1 17 Die Nebel stinken, 'the fogs are rank'

- 1 22 Det-vermogent, 'he can, by himself, do something for us.'
- l 24 Gin Baar say 'a few men' linterfueden is a very expressive familiar term for 'to submit,' 'to yield'

l 26 Ֆաի քրունոց, 'pass on' The expression քրունոց for wetter is now rather obsolete

1 29 Cp for Buttel the Note to p 39, l 24 Seib-burth; gehealt, 'have you qu'te recovered' See p 37, l 6

P 73, 1 2 Auf etwas geben, 'to mind anything'

- 1 7 Weiden sich eine Motion machen, will get into
- l II Mbu—inhug, 'but we shall go on (behave) as we used to do, rely upon that '
- l 14 The term Cowatta, in addressing a person, corresponds to the English 'gossip.' For the word Tupf, see the Note to p 13, 1 4

1 17 Last-erft, 'let him alone for the present'

- 1 19 Right neighbor may here be rendered by 'bide,' and geht's raid by 'he makes quick work of it'
  - l 22 Bu eilisten, here 'to entrap' Geht min, 'go to'
- 1 24 Was—burdycht, 'what liberties such a fellow may take'
  - 1 25 In memen Leben is here in the sense of je
  - 1 30 Denen, 'for whom'
  - 1 31 Cine—Leibe say 'a little tailor's blood in their

veins' The word When is frequently used in German in combination with some other term to express similarity of character, as is the case here

Schneiberaber, lit 'tailor's vein,' which expression Vansen

uses as a taunt against Tetter

P 74, 1 5 Rount is here to be translated by 'might' Vansen considers his own head safer than that of Egmont, which view he intimates in the next line, by adding 'if he only had my head on his shoulders for a quarter of an hour'

1 7 Was Rechts transl 'mighty wise'

1 9 The ironical expression Noo't in must be freely translated, as by 'what a wise remark you have made there' or briefly 'how wise you are!' Feiner, 'more shrewd'

I II Supply the word 'nonsense' before a

I 13 For Ungewaschen Mans we may use the Shakespearian expression 'foul-mouthed villain'

Î 15 Daß-machte, 'that it would make him uneasy'

1 19 Guien—gefehen, 'seen one fail,' or 'seen a shooting star' Beg was et, 'it was gone for ever' The verb fid follieuten, with reference to stats, signifies 'to fall,' 'to shoot' Vansen intimates, with an evident allusion to Egmont, that not even all the stars are film and secure, since there are also shooting stars which disappear as soon as they fall

1 27 Bermindert Euch burch's, 'express your astonishment by,'

or 'gape away through the'

P 75, ll r-4 This passage is frequently misunderstood. It contains an antithesis, to the effect that whichever part the scoundrel acts, whether that of the accused or of the judge, he has always the best of it, for 'in the dock he fools the judge, and on the bench (Higherfuhl) he takes pleasure in stamping the accused (Significial as a criminal 'Significial is the name given to those who were accused before the tribunal of the Inquisition, and Minimiparituhlichen to the stool on which they were placed

1 5 Edimen is here used in the sense of 'much,' 'a good deal'

1 6 Weit—hatte, 'because he examined an honest fellow, whom they wanted to punish, so as to make him appear as a rogue' Those who have a fair knowledge of German will find no difficulty in understanding the grammatical import of the phrase sum Edgelmen verhousen, which signifies 'to entangle a person in cross-examination in such a manner that he must appear as a rogue'

1 8 Fuisch gelogen, 'a downright lie'

1 9 Mollen—euner, 'what can they get out of a man by examination, if he,' &c.

- l 10 Spakenforf is a familiar expression for Dimmiforf The following phiase, the literal meaning of which will be easily understood, must be rendered freely, viz 'when nothing can be worked out by cross-examination, they work something in' (by cross-examination)
- if 1 12 Wolf may here be rendered by at times, to be placed before and Tragt—way, they put the questions gently

1 15 Dlacht, here 'forms'

- 1 16 Past—null, 'does not fail to watch for every slight contradiction which seems to occur'
- 1 17 The clause ba—an, 'there he fastens his line,' is here used figuratively to express that the alleged contradiction serves the Inquisitor as a starting-point from which he proceeds with his snare

Last betrefen, 'if the poor sellow allows himself to be caught' Einen betreten is synonymous with Einen exwischen, extangen

1 21 Gube may here be rendered by 'point'

1 24 Schelmenfabitiant, 'manufacturer, or forger of rogues'

1 25 Beighbenen, 'misplaced,' is here used as synonymous with verruften, 'disjointed'; and verbruften, 'suppressed,' with geschlossen, 'concealed' Befannten, 'acknowledged'

1 26 Anzeigen, here 'information' Ginen-zusummenkunstelt,

'cobbles together a ragged scarecrow'

1 30 Mag bas augehn, 'this may do very well'

P 76, 1 2 & Mifelyi, 'quite the look' Menyfrinie, lit 'cross-spider,' so called from their triple white cross, Engl 'diadem spider' (Lat aranea diadema) The portraits picserved of Alva would seem fully to justify the simile

1 3 Dusbauchigen, 'paunch-bellied'

1 4 Schmilletingen, 'meagre-bodied' Ծւույ (from fiessen) denotes properly 'food for beasts' only

1 8 Loses Maul, 'foul-mouth'

I II Will—ubel, 'do I then say this because I wish him ill?'
Wit faun's teat feur, 'it can only be agreeable to me,' viz if
Egmont's life is safe

1 14 Hat—verabschiedet, 'he let off with a sound flogging'

Cp p 41, ll 14-18

1 16 Antreten is here used in the sense of herannahen, 'to

approach '

- 1 17 Bruberschaft mit und trinfen, 'fraternize with us over a glass' Bruberschaft trufen means literally 'to give the pledge of brotherhood whilst drinking,' 1 e by touching the glasses
  - 1 18 Min fachte zusehn, 'and patiently bide our time'
  - I 19 The Duke of Alva resided in the Culemburg mansion,

which stood in the square called the Sablon, from the time of his arrival at Brussels until the departure of the Regent Goethe uses the form Gulenbing in accordance with the German edition of Meteren, where it is called Culenberg Schiller calls the place the Kulenbinguich Saus

1 21 Both Silva and Gomez are fictitious personages

1 24 An einem Plage eintieffen, 'to arrive at (to come to) a place'

l 25 Indes, 'meanwhile,' 1 e before the appointed hour

ai i ives

P 77, 1 5 Daß—hat, 'that his command was right'

1 8 Dα—but, because I am accustomed to the lighter service of Italy' It is not improbable that this remark contains a reminiscence of Goethe from his sojourn in Italy, where he finished the present tragedy. He had there ample opportunity—as may be seen from his Σταίωπιζάς θλιμ—to witness the laxity of official life in Italy

l 10 Det alte, 'the same I used to be'

l 11 Lust-sein, 'aie never at ease'

l 12 Gleicht uit, 'to my mind resembles' Cp the Note to l 12, p 7

l 13 Woşu-hatte, 'the garrison of which must have (be fui nished with) wings' The simile is made by Gomez, to express the reserved and inaccessible character of Alva

I 15 Gi fet wie, &c, 'that he was like a common tavein with a (suspended) signboard' Bunniwent Beiden signifies 'a sign which indicates that spirits were sold in the house' The Duke here evidently alludes to Egmont, who was accessible to everybody

ll 22, 24 Sich buichsungte, 'wedged his way through'

1 26 Mustos, here 'impediment'

l 27 Alva's march from Spain to the Netherlands is regal ded as a remarkable military achievement. He embarked with about 10,000 men on May 10, 1567, at Carthagena. At the beginning of Junc the army was ordered to rendezvous at San Ambiosio, at the foot of the Alps (and Italian budht). The Duke took then his route over Mount Cenis, where he had to struggle against the difficulties of the pass (Cp 1 25, und enten Bug, &c) 'The army,' says Schiller, in his Mirall ber Mierellande, 'crossed the Alps of Savoy by regular stages, and with the fourteenth day completed that dangerous passage. A French army of observation accompanied it side by side along the frontiers of Dauphiné and the course of the Rhone, and the allied army of the Genevese followed it on the right.' We may add that Charles IX of

France had refused the Spanialds a passage through his dominions, and that the Prince of Condé and the Admiral Coligny, the leaders of the Huguenot party, offered that monarch 50,000 men 'to fall upon his old enemies, the Spaniards, and cut them off in the passes of the mountains' (burd) by Hungofen, Romighthem with Relei) The Genevese, apprehending a coup de main on their town, and relying, in case of need, on the people of Berne, were leady to repel any assault (buth bue Schwider with Berbundenen) That the strictest discipline was observed during the whole maich is a historical fact (but fliengle Mainisguil) (field), Alva bridling the lage of his soldiers to let it loose with the more fury on the inhabitants of the Netherlands, where he arrived in the middle of August The accurate description given by Goethe is mainly based on Strada's account, 1 p 293, &c

1 30 The statement made by Gomez is based on the advice of the Regent to Alva, 'to dismiss a portion of his aimy, in order not to mitate the provinces, which were already quiet

and obedient to the King, (Strada, 1 p 292)

P 78, l r The Regent informed the King that 100,000 people fled the country on the coming of Alva (Strada, 1. p 298) Numerous emigrants came to England, and, according to statistical calculations, the Flemings in London in that very year (1567) were as numerous as all other foreigners put together Cp Prescott, Philip II, vol 11 p 261

1 2 Edicts strictly forbidding the people to leave the

country were issued before and after the arrival of Alva

1 3 East has here approximately the meaning of 'more

than ever' Cp the Note to p 6, 1 ro
ll 9-14 The contents of these lines have a historical According to Strada (1 p 293) and other authorities the Regent had equipped, at the request of the King, sixteen ships, which were to be launched as soon as the news of his departure from Spain became known in the Netherlands Besides, prayers were ordered for the safe arrival of the King, who was very anxious to make the Netherlanders believe that he would shortly visit their country By this expedient he hoped to allay the general discontent about the arrival of Alva This artifice was, to some degree, successful, but the Flemings soon grew incredulous about the King's visit to their country, and jocosely compared him to the Emperor Tiberius, who, by ordering public players for his safety, made people believe in his imaginary journey The prayers, they also declared, were quite needless, the King being safe enough in his own country

I 15 Don Fernando de Toledo, Pijor of the Knights of St John, had the command of the cavalry in the Duke's army

1 23 Don Fernando Alvarez de Toledo, Duke of Alva, was born in 1508 He was trained from childhood to aims, and distinguished himself at an early age as a courageous soldier In 1530 he accompanied Charles V in his campaign against the Turks, and in 1535 in his expedition to Tunis In the Smalkaldian war he won the decisive battle of Muhlberg as Imperial Generalissimo When sent by Philip II to Italy to fight against the Pope, he was not allowed to display fully his military talent In the Netherlands he pursued a merciless policy, such as has perhaps no parallel in history, without being able to subdue the 'rebels' Personally he was stern and haughty, and as regards his general character, Motley says (Rise of the Dutch Republic, 11 p 107), 'He did not combine a great variety of vices, but those which he had were colossal, and he possessed no virtues He was neither lustful nor intemperate, but his professed eulogists admitted his enormous availce, while the world has agreed that such an amount of stealth and ferocity, of patient vindictiveness and universal bloodthirstiness, were never found in a savage beast of the forest, and but raiely in a human bosom' Alva left the Netherlands in 1573, without having been able to subdue them, and died in 1582 in Spain

1 27 Beorbert say 'given them their instructions'

P 79, 1 6. The phrase Sier bin ich has not in German the familiai stamp which 'here I am' has in English It may here be rendered by 'here, my lord'

1 8 Unaufhaltfam, 'irrepressible'

1 15 Fahen for fangen is now used in poetry and in higher style only

1 17 Bunktlich-tieffen, 'overtake them with terrible cer-

tainty'

1 20 Box anbein, 'before all others,' 1 e 'particularly'

l 21 In speaking of Egmont's conduct after the arrival of Alva, Motley says 'He affected, and sometimes felt, a lightheartedness which surprised all around him' (Rise of the Dutch Republic, 11 p 119)

1 25 Merkich, 'manifest,' 'notable'
1 28 Supply 'to work' after rash Uns wider Willen, 'against our will'

l 29 Sentand stellen is an idiomatic expression for 'to

ictain, or deliver up any one'

1 30 Dienstfeitig say 'officious' Ihnen giant's, 'they are overawed,' 'full of dread'

The term political is here used in the sense of diplomatians flug, fchlan say therefore 'diplomatically'

1 31 Nengstlich is here synonymous with Augst verrathend,

i e 'betraying anxiety,' and may be rendered by 'timid'

P 80, 1 I Gingeln, here 'individually'

- l 2 Sult-ab, 'they are prevented by their public-spirited character,' viz by that spirit which bade them to act in common only
  - 1 3 Silva's description of the general feeling and behaviour

of the Flemish nobles is based on historical facts

17 Was — gibt, 'something which gives ground for anxiety and thought'

1 o. Abelu is here used in the sense of eitheren, to dis-

tinguish'

- I 13 Egmont's confidential and private secretary was a Flemish nobleman of the name of John van Kasembiood, Seigneur de Beckerzeel He was supposed to be in possession of papers which would implicate Egmont The importance which Alva attached to his capture has been effectively pointed out by the poet, in making the Duke, who was so curt and precise in his orders, mention the secretary twice viz here and in 1 13, p 79
  - 1 17 Galeur is by some authors spelt with double t 1 19 Sch—fagen, I daie not confess it to myself'

1 21 Sinnend, here 'thoughtfully'

1 22 Schalen stands here for Wagfchalen, 'scales'

1 23 Bunglem (of scales), 'balance-beam' 1 25 Mugehaucht, 'breathed on,' 'moved'

- 1 29 Gr-gegeben, 'all has become quiet,' 'it is quiet everywheie'

  - l 30 Straß auf Straß ab, 'up and down the streets' l 31 Ֆոնքու—աղցքիսուու, 'keep the fear in such restraint'

P 81, l 1 Lispelu denotes here 'to whisper'

1 2 The clause wenn-lengtet, which hardly admits of a literal translation, unless lenditet is rendered by 'flashes,' signifies 'when distant lightning announces the storm'

1 7 Mohes, here 'unbroken'

Das-mifte, 'which I could not help plaising' Cp the Note

to l 12, p 7

1 8 Em Bfeed sureiten, 'to break a horse' The words put here into the mouth of Egmont, and which contain in themselves only a harmless, though careless remark, admit of a malignant interpretation, since they can be so construed that Egmont wished to intimate his intention to fice the country, or rather expected an outbreak

1 20 Bilbfam, 'docile'

P 82, 1 r Was fumfi bu, 'what do you intend to do?' 'what is your design?'

play,' &c (Rise of the Dutch Republic, vol 11 p 120)

1. 5. Translate das Großte, das Geheimste by 'the weightiest,

the most secret matters'

1. 7 The sentiment expressed here by Alva is not a poetical invention, as seems generally to be supposed, but is based on a historical fact. The Duke seemed to have a special predilection for his son Ferdinand, 'for whom,' to speak with Prescott, 'the father showed as much affection as it was in his rugged nature to feel for any one.' (Philip II, vol 11 p 143)

1 9 Audi—aussubunden say 'also the capacity to expless yourself' The use of the veib aussubunden in this place is considered very puzzling, and Duntzer sets it down as 'strange' (numberling). According to our opinion, however, its use is justified in the present figure of speech containing a gradation, of which the expression aussufulnen is the climax, for Alva is anxious to transmit (fortsupflausen) to his son all the elements which he deemed necessary in an effective commander, viz to express himself (aussubunden) clearly—to express his ideas in the proper concise formula, secondly, to give the command (311 befellen) with the proper emphasis, and thirdly, to execute (aussuffulnen) the command with the requisite energy

l ir Du bauchbaite may here be rendered by 'a most useful' Goothe not unfrequently uses the form of the relative superlative for the absolute superlative, which usage will not

be foreign to classical scholars

1 24 Ein unbedeutend Blatt say 'some piece of paper'

1 28 Bernahen, here 'to secure'

P 83, 1 4 According to history the Prince of Orange had left the Netherlands before Alva's arrival He was afterwards summoned by the 'Blood Council,' to present himself at Brussels, and answer the charges against him It is needless to say



that the Pince did not obey the summons, he sent, however, a brief reply in which he contemptuously denied the junisdiction of the Council

l 13 Count say 'moves on'

1 16 Nachholen, 'to retrieve'

1 19, &c Wesseld in the reasons for and against from floating anew through my mind' Wessel is here used in the sense of 'to forbid'. The pleonastic negation wesself in the cours rather frequently

1 23 Den Cennigen, 'his friends,' 'his partisans'

1 24 Swinger should here be rendered by 'to coerce,' in order to retain the true distinction between that verb and the noun Unbezwinglucher, 'indomitable,' 'unconquerable,' in the next line

1 29 Locotopf, 'lottery-urn,' 1 e the vessel from which the

lottery tickets used to be drawn

1 30 Jugetvellt, '1 olled up,' 1 e as the tickets generally are in the lottery-vase Tuffer, for 'prize,' has been primarily used of winnings in the lottery only Teller, for 'blank,' is not

so usual as the expression Miete

P 84, l r llmb—nidt, 'and did it not start at the scent of blood'. This remaik is founded on the popular superstition that horses start at places where blood has been shed, or which are to be the scenes of bloodshed. Cp Lord Hastings' speech in Shakespeare's Richard III (Act in Scene 4)

'Three times to-day my foot-cloth horse did stumble, And started, when he looked upon the Tower,

As loth to bear me to the slaughter-house' 1 5 Stopfen, here 'to pat'

I ii Wil-will, 'as best I may' This part of Alva's

speech (as far as haben, 1 14) is addressed to Ferdinand

- 1 14 That Orange was considered the greatest and most dangerous enemy of the King, is a well-known historical fact. It is related that when Cardinal Granvelle was told at Rome that 'the Taciturn,' as he used to call the Prince, had not been arrested, he exclaimed, 'if Orange has escaped, they have taken nobody, for his capture would have been worth more than that of any other man in the Netherlands'
- 1 18,&c The profession of loyalty in the mouth of Egmont is here very characteristic. It reveals at once both his devotion

to the King and his general discontent

I 27 Kraftig mitwifen, 'work vigorously with us'

1 29 It would seem that Egmont was justified in attributing to the Duke a more correct knowledge of the state of the country, masmuch as he had distributed his troops

through Brussels and other principal cities of the Netherlands, and, besides, kept a number of spies in the country

P 85, 1 7 Macht, 'might,' 'weight'

1 15 The import of Egmont's speech is contained in the Regent's last letters, alluded to before, which she addressed to the King from the Netherlands

1 17 Build gebaunt is a very expressive term for 'forced

back '

ll 18-22 Alva is reported by Stiada (1 285) to have concluded his speech at the above-mentioned meeting of the State Council at Madrid with the words 'That the rebels do not harbour less ill temper because they appear calm for the present, and their rebellious spirit is sure to lise again, when the fear of punishment has passed For even venomous seipents can be handled with impunity during the winter, not because they are not poisonous, but because they are toipid And it is a well-known fact that heresy does never sincerely subside into quiet' (Nimirum exploratum jam esse Numquam bona fide baeresım mansuescere)

l 27 Bu-follen, 'surely we are not to persuade ourselves'

1 29 Musschien, here 'to proclaim' The advice to have recourse to clemency in order to pacify the country, was repeatedly given to the King, and even the Regent urged Alva to proclaim a general amnesty, as the only way to restore quiet (Prescott, Philip II, vol 11 182)

P 86, l r Ginge—wieber, 'would remain (lit move about)

free and unmolested'

1 2 Bum beietten Beispiel, 'a standing example'
1 4 Unsum may here be rendered by 'frenzy', and Tumtenset, which denotes lit 'drunkenness,' and is also used to express an exalted state of the mind, by 'infatuation'

1 7 The clause Water Rounge, &c, is elliptical, and bears the meaning 'were kings not safer in following a policy of

meicv?'

1 8 The expression Welt has, in combination with Nachwelt, the meaning of Mittwelt, 1 e 'contemporary age,' 'one's contemporaries,' and forms in that combination an antithetical expression which is difficult to render into another language, when, as is the case here, the word Belt refers to a 'past contemporary age' In the present instance Will may be rendered by 'the world during their life-time,' or the whole expression Welt und Mitwelt, by 'men of all ages'

l II Mis-follte, 'to be offended by every idle blasphemy' The sentiment expressed here by Egmont is based on a remark which the Regent made to her brother in her

last letter from the Netherlands, in which she urged him to use the loyal prerogative of melcy, and which, as Strada (1 p 305) reports, concluded with the words 'I pray and imploie your Majesty that, mindful of divine clemency and of your own, and limiting your vengeance to as few as possible, you would prefer the repentance of your subjects to their punishment? (Majestatem ego tuam oj o obtestoj que, ut clementiae diviniae ac tuae memoi, ultione in quam paucissimos contracta, tuorum poenitentiam quam poenam malis) The letter alluded to, which is given verbatim in the Correspondence de Philippe II (1 p 603), actually contains the following forcible passage. Your Majesty should remember that the greater kings are, and the more they approach God in station (y se acei an mas à Dios), the more they should strive to imitate the divine clemency and compassion'

1 15 Ablehnen is here poetically used for abwenden, 'to

avert ?

l 16 This statement fully characterizes the uncompromising character of Alva, whose vindictiveness was without bounds

The expression ungestraft . . sich freuen is here poetically

used for 'to enjoy impunity'

l 21 fluction, 'bring to a place of shelter,' 'save' Cp. with reference to Egmont's statement, the Note to p 78, l 1.

1 24 Rath und That is an alliterative expression signifying 'counsel and aid' (lit 'deed').

1 27 Buselien, here 'to contemplate quietly'

I 28 (Stwa summal, &c, 'now and then strike about us, as in a pantomime (lit carnival's play), so that there should be some noise'. It is perhaps not too far-fetched to assume that the present simile contains a satirical remark on the absurd practice, in certain carnival's plays or pantomimes, of harlequins running to and fro on the stage and striking each other with their swords of lath, without any one knowing why and to what purpose, unless it be to make people forget the absence of all action in the play

1 30 The verb heißen is in this phrase equivalent to sein

l 32 Alva's reproach refers to Egmont's temporary persecution of the 'heretics,' and his subsequent indulgence towards them Cp p 41, ll 10-18, and the Notes referring to that passage

P 87, 1 3 Ift zu mißbeuten, 'may be misconstrued'

l ii Rebett may in the present alliterative expression be rendered by 'soul' The import of Egmont's speech is a complete summary of the grievances of the Flemings, and in general a repetition of the complaints of the citizens

in the opening scene of the diama That Philip the Second's scheme was to become absolute King of the Netherlands, which he ruled only in his capacity of Duke, is a historical fact

- 1. 12 Leppth is here used in the sense of 'tapestry,' for which expression the word Tapete is now more usual l 13 Anfdiag, 'design' Ausbent, 'devises,' 'plans'

  - 1 15 Gewirften Zeichen, 'embroidered symbols
- 1 16 Ste betuden translate 'to ensuare them' The verb betuden was primarily used for 'to entrap or catch beasts and buds in a snare', hence the figurative meaning, 'to ensnare' The dramatist Gryphius (1616-1664) uses the same expression with reference to the abuse which is often made of religion for worldly purposes, in saying Beil (n) aber Die Religion und beien Lorschutzung der ficherste Weg ist den Pobel au berucken

1 21 Gin boppelted Joth, namely, that of the absolute King

and of the Inquisition

1 23 Wei's iecht verstande, 'if (it were but) rightly understood.'

l 30 Dem Nachsten, 'his nearest concerns' l 31 Uneine weiden, 'to disagree,' 'to quarrel'

- 1 32, &c Emengen, figuratively 'to coerce,' 'to restrain' P 88, 1 r Halten is here used in the sense of behandeln, 'to
- 1 4 Rount-Berftand, 'does a king attain to mature reason' Bu Berstande fommen is properly the equivalent for the familiar phrase, 'to come to years of discretion'

1 5 Itub-fieber, 'and should the many not prefer' Egmont pleads here the superiority of a representative

government over that of an absolute monarchy

l 7 Das-aftert, 'that class of people who grow old under the eyes of their master, viz the courtiers who spend their whole life in the vicinity of the king, on whose will they entirely depend

l 13 Co geht, &c, 'it won't do' 'It will never do'

l 15 In this idiomatic phrase, which expresses that a person is worthy of the life he has received from God, the

word Boben stands for Cibe

Mund fur sich, 'complete in himself' Rund is figuratively used for 'complete,' i e like a circle which is complete and perfect in itself 'Cp the term 'iotundus,' in 'teres atque 1 otundus, Horace, Sat 11 7 86
1 18 This description of the Netherlanders by Egmont 1s

partly based on that given by Strada (cp 1 p 26), and by other authorities Even Chailes V said of them 'that there was no people who detested servitude more than they did, and that they could only be gained over by kindness?

1 29 Ablement signifies literally 'to learn anything by quietly watching or listening' Here it may be rendered by 'to study'

P 89, 1 6 Staatsennichtung, 'government of a state'

I 7 Settfolge, 'course of time' 1 11 Schlupswinkel, 'loopholes'

1 13 The verb fann should be placed in the English translation before sich verbeigen, and buichschleichen rendered by 'slink

through'

- 1 23 Mainsten may here be rendered by 'relatives,' 'kindred, for which expressions it frequently stands, besides, it seems to contain an allusion to the appointment of the Regents of the Netherlands, who were all relatives of the rulers of the country
  - 1 24 On schalten und walten compare the Note to 1 II, p 34

1 28 Duich—aidentt, 'should wish to rule by himself'

P 90, 1 3 Setnen may here be translated by 'of his,' to be

placed after Bruber

1 9 Unbehingten, here 'uncompromising' The reproach of rapacity is aimed at Alva Cp the Note to 1. 23, p 78

l to Gahung is the spelling adopted by Goethe and

Schiller, it is now frequently written without an h

Die-aufloste, 'which would not easily die out (or cease) by itself'

l 17 The expression will feinen Willen, lit 'wills his will,' is very emphatic, asserting, as it does forcibly, that the King is 'determined to have his will,' or 'what the King wills, he wills' Alva wishes to make Egmont understand that the King's will is supreme, which notion has been strikingly pointed out by the emphatic repetition of the word Roung in the piesent speech

l 26 Supply 'is to be done,' after mas l 31 Genuth, 'spirit' Cp the Note to l 29, p 7

P 91, l 1 Den-Eigenheit, 'the innermost core of then individuality'

- 1 3 This line contains a kind of antithesis, viz the King wants (first) to crush them entirely, in order that they should (then) become something, but something quite different
- l 12 The word 'argument,' may be supplied before Fin, and buich; ugehen in the next line rendered by 'to balance' 1. 17 Db-foll, 'whether it is to stoop down before the

falling axe,' viz 'it must be indifferent to a noble-minded man whether he submit to an ignominious voke or suffer death '

1 24 Dungend macht, 'represents as urgent'

verb machen is here used in the sense of barftellen

P 92, 1 7 llub—au, 'and bring a far more serious accusation against yourself' The adverb gehafing in the next line may be rendered by 'malignantly,' or by 'in his malignity'

Unachoren denotes figuratively 'to be attached or

devoted to?

1 12 Scheid,-Streite, 'I retire from this dispute' 1 14 Whifen, here 'to realize,' 'to accomplish'

1 22 Dain say 'for this purpose' Berufin, 'summoned'

1 30 The historic incidents relating to Egmont's imprisonment are different from the diamatic version of his capture, as will be seen from the biographical sketch of the Count in the Historical Introduction

# Künfter Aufzug

P 96, 1 4 In some editions the name of Clare has been changed into the diminutive Clauden in this act only, whilst the original edition has the latter reading also in the third act In some editions the name of Clarchen occurs throughout the di ama

1 5 Liebchen, &c, 'dearest, for heaven's sake, what will

you do?'

1 22 Nicht-wechseln, 'not lose time in idle talk'

P 97, 1 6 Den Dolch guden, 'to lift the dagger' Mitauaffluber, 'as twilight grows darker my anxiety increases'

1 8 Mit schnellem Lauf, 'quickly running'

l 12, &c lleberschwemmt say 'overwhelmed' Crounts, 'crushed'

1 18 Wie ift Die say 'what ails thee?'

- 1, 25 Was foll bas, may here be rendered by 'what does that mean to say?' or more briefly by 'what do you mean?' the verb heißen or bedeuten, being understood in Gei man
  - zu einuigen, 'to obtain his freedom' 1P 98. l 1 3hn 1 8 Ghent was the chief town of Flanders, of which pro-

vince Egmont was the governor

Seine Pfeide schallen say 'the noise of his horse's l ro hoofs?

l 12 Fuhr may here be rendered by 'shot'

1 21 Einen gewahren laffen signifies 'to let any one have his own will,' 'to let any one go on as he likes'

l 29 Rount-wuderfinden, 'you cannot collect yourselves,'

'you are no more your former selves'

P 99, 1 1 The verb leben is to be supplied after weight the l 2 Both Athem and South signifying 'breath,' the phrase will be rendered more emphatic in English by rendering Mit seinem Athem by 'with the last breath of his life'

1 8 Gifullen, 'to fulfil what has been requested,' i e to

grant

l 10. Mart is used figuratively for 'manly strength,' or 'strength' in general

1 15 Wehlos, 'unarmed,' may be placed as an attribute

before Kahne Translate wehend, by 'waving'

1 25 Neber einander, 'one above the other' Saben-genickt, 'they stood scraping and bowing' This passage, and partly the one contained in ll 7-15, p 98, 1eminds us of the speech of Marullus in the opening scene of Shake peare's Julius Cæsai, viz

'Many a time and oft Have you climb'd up to walls and battlements, To towers and windows, yea, to chimney tops, Your infants in your arms, and there have sat The livelong day, with patient expectation, To see great Pompey pass the streets of Rome,' &c

- 1 27 Mochten—gehen, 'they might turn aside from his fall'
  - 1 29 Die-grifft, 'who used to doff your hats'
- P 100, 1 2 Wege und Stege, 'all the ways and passages' Cp the Note to l II, p 34

1 3 Einen Anschlag geben, 'to suggest some plan'

1 18 Da-ift, 'in the hour of need'

1 23 Die-betratst, 'where you appeared only on Sundays'

1 24 Mebertrieben chibar, 'with excess of propriety'

P 101, 1 5 Willig is here used in the sense of 'readily'

l 9 Unfinellen is here used in its poetical signification of 'to grow' The expression of 'healthy growth,' to be placed after Ruabe, would perhaps be an appropriate rendering for the attributive adjective

1 10 Mft-bewegten, 'boughs and tops of trees swayed and

creaked' Innerft bet Rern, 'the inmost core'

l 14 Naschen, which denotes primarily to taste some dainty by stealth,' is here used in the sense of 'to gnaw' (nagen) to which latter expression it seems allied.

- l 15 Sie übermindet, die, &c This mode of construction is sanctioned in poetical diction only
  - 1. 17 Rudend und zerschmetternd, 'crashing and shattering'
    1. 18 Gleich—meggemiesen, 'chased like bubbles from
- thy brow'
- 1. 20 Die-miebertreibt, 'which in a thousand shapes ebbs and flows within thee'

1 21 Begegnet, 'approach,' 'appear'

- 1. 23 Gestalten, 'shapes' Gewoshiten, 'familiar' Du gesassen sebtest, 'you did calmly associate,' 1 e which he calmly contemplated
- 1 24 Dent—sessit, 'whom the sound heart yearns to encounter in emulation' (emulously), 1 e he does not fear the impetuous foe, the sudden death, with whom to grapple in emulation is the desire of a healthy spirit

1 26 Borbild, 'image,' 'symbol' Unleidlich—auf, 'how

intolerable was it to me even when seated upon '

1. 29 Mit, &c, 'in constantly recurring discussions'

1. 30 Render Buffen by 'natters,' and supply 'seemed' after Decte Egmont describes here graphically the oppressive feeling of anxiety which overcomes a person accustomed to move freely, when constrained within narrow walls

P 102, 1 2 Mit, &c, 'with deep-drawn breath'

Und fulth hunaus, 'and we hastened away'

Il 3-5 Da—mmutten, 'to the place so befitting (meet) to us into the open field where all the surrounding gifts of nature exhaling from the earth, and all the blessings of the stars floating through the air, hover round us' We deemed it expedient to give a full translation—keeping it as literal as possible—of these lines, which offer, like several other passages in the following pages, almost insurmountable difficulties to foreign readers of German

1 7 "we spring aloft invigorated" This simile it Antaeus, the son of Poseidon and Ge (Earth), who was invincible so long as he remained in contact with his mother Earth, so that, when any one succeeded in throwing him to the ground, the earth-born giant rose with

1 enewed vigour.

1. 8 Render Begter by 'desn'es,' and affen by 'every.'

l 9 Boisubingen, 'to press forward Bu eihaschen, 'to grasp' l 10 Duich may here be translated by 'in,' or buich glust rendered by 'pervades,' 'animates'

1 11 Angeboines, 'native,' 'innate'

1 14 Benbenb firetifit, 'sweeps destroying all,' which words should be placed after into in 1 12.

l 15 The whole of the above passage from 1110 fund funding, &c (l 2), down to the present line, contains a poetical description of the exuberant feelings which are entertained in the open air by persons endowed with a poetical mind, striving sputts, and an energetic impulse for action

1 16 Du bift, &c This refers to the soul-elevating enjoyment described in the preceding passage, which enjoyment

is now 'a meie image, a dream of past happiness'

I 18 The clause Deringt—gomen, which offers some difficulty for a faithful translation, may be rendered by 'does she refuse to grant thee to meet suddenly never-dreaded death, in open daylight'

l 20 Sm thin Moder may be rendered by 'in this loathsome foulness,' or rather freely by 'in these loathsome mouldy walls'. The word Moder, which is allied to the English 'mother,' in the sense of 'a thick slimy substance concreted in liquors,' signifies in German, 'mouldiness,' 'mustiness,' &c

Mic-au, 'what a loathsome odour it (viz the mouldiness,

the foulness of the an) exhales from these stones!

l 21 Render here faut by 'stagnates,' and vor . Scheut,

in the next line, by 'shrinks from'

- l 24 Bet det Seit, 'beforehand,' 1 e before the murdet is actually perpetrated Las ab, in the next line, may be rendered by 'forbear'
- l 25 Egmont addresses here to himself the reproach that it is not 'his fate' (bas Glust) which makes him insensible to any hope of rescue, but his own doubt Glust denotes also 'fate' in general Some explain, however, the present passage in a different manner, namely, by understanding the word Glust to denote 'happiness'

l 29 It is a historical fact that the Regent held Egmont in

very high favour

1 30 Tenerbilo, lit 'fiery image,' 'phenomenon,' i e meteor

- l 32 The rendering 'devise some daring scheme,' will, in general, convey the meaning of the poetical expression magnith finite which is quite appropriate to the thoughtful and dauntless character of Orange
- P 103, l I Unb mit, &c, 'and with gathering tide of power' Egmont hopes that the people will assemble in numbers, and in doing so their own ranks and numbers will swell

1 3 Translate haltet. ab by 'shut out,' and wohlgemeintes

Diangen by 'well-meant thronging'

1 5 Sid engos, 'spread over them,' viz inspired them. I ra Stead meet (the)'

- P 104, 1 3 The literal meaning of ben allgemein Erkaunten is 'the universally acknowledged, or appreciated', but the expression may here be rather freely rendered by 'a nation's favourite.
  - 1 11 Dir-nichte, 'to help thee I am powerless' 1 17 Mu selbst bewußt, 'conscious of my own self'

1 19 Hub—Rufte, 'and separated from thee, her last powers

grapple with the agony of death'

1 23 Die nachtliche Thui, 'the door at night' Mark the use of nachtlich in the present combination, to which analogies may be found in Goethe's Du moigenblicher Jungling (Pandora, Act 1), in Uhland's In ben abendlichen Garten (in his ballad Ritter Sankt Georg), and in the 'Vespertinum pererro forum,' by Horace (Sat 1 6)

P 105, 1 3 Des Aimen emziges Schaf, 'the poor man's one This biblical simile is founded on the parable in 2 Sam XII One would expect in this sentence the adverb himber instead of hember, which latter term denotes a 'direction towards the speaker', but Brackenburg transfers himself

as it were to the place of the subject spoken of

1 5 The poetical expression flog von mu meder will perhaps best be rendered by 'ebbed away from me'

1 14 Den Beufichen, lit 'the glorious one' say 'the noble

man'

l 15. Alengstlich im Schlase, 'in anxious slumber' The general feeling of the people, as described by the present speaker, is in accordance with history

l 23. Sich regt say 'yearns'

1 25. Wandeln is a poetical expression for 'to walk,' 'move', here it may be rendered by 'to approach'

1 30 Ein Schreifung, lit 'a terror' say 'a terrible spectacle,

P 106, 1 2 Scharfen, here 'to strain'

Streg min entgegen, 'there arose before me'

Worbereitend zu begehn, 'to perform in this preparation '

1 15. Diese Bulle, 'this veil,' namely, the veil of darkness which enveloped the 'hideous birth of night' The spectres alluded to in the next line are the horrible visions which

Brackenburg had described

hummen, 'crashing swallows' The verb l 19. Runscht thinfuler is here used in the sense of 'to crush with a creaking noise' In this signification the form zerknuschen is more usual, but in this place it would be inapplicable, on account of the adverb himmiter which refers to finischen.

- 1 21 Den gefchandet, 'whom they have descenated by making him a witness of their rage'
  - 1 22 Losen—Bande, 'bolts and fetters open '
- 1 23 Umquest—Schimmen, 'sheds around our friend a halo of soft light' The whole of this clause from we to Schimmen is a biblical reminiscence based on the deliverance of the Apostle Peter (cp Acts xii 6, 7, &c) The freedom alluded to in the next clause, however, does not mean bodily liberation from prison, but deliverance from earthly life Clarchen, who now sees that there is no rescue for Egmont, hopes he will be spared the ignominy of an execution by dying during the night a gentle death That such is her feeling becomes evident from the conclusion of her speech.

1 31 Ungebulbig, 'in thy impatience'

P 107, l 12 Det in sich fast, 'embracing'

1 14 the bean and, say it will unite us too' It is hardly possible to give with adequate force the meaning of the expression bean in this concise phrase. It properly significative consequently, but this word is too prosaic to be used in the present poetical speech.

l 23 Bub micht we, 'will never shake off,' will never be freed from' The meaning of the following clause is that even the rage of vengeance will not be able to remove the misery from the present generation, if Egmont, the man who

alone could save the country, has perished.

1 24 Lebt-ift, 'live on, poor souls, through a time which ceases to be time'

1 26 Es flockt the Recisions, 'its course is arrested'

l 28 Supply 'live' after wu

- 1 31, &c & sebentiagen may here be rendered by 'life-inspiring,' animating'
- P 108,1 16, &c Alle—ziehn, 'it will gather round itself the mists' Bibei Willen, 'against its own will'
- 1 20 Men lettent, 'suffering anew,' 'with re-awakened sufferings' Gottesbilb, here 'image of the Saviour'

1 21 Bagt-hervor, 'will not venture forth'

- l 23 Supply of the clock' after Beiger, and render Weg by
- l 25 Mtd)—Giab, 'the feeling (of the approach) of morning scares me into the grave'. This sentiment is based on the belief that ghosts walking upon earth must return to their graves on scenting the moining air, Claichen wishing to express that her abode in this world will be over with the present night, and her doom will be sealed with the approach of the dawning moining.

l 30. Dufft, 'mayst', namely, what he thinks his conscience allows him to do

P 109, l 5 Su-uberlaffen, 'she leaves me, leaves me to myself'

1 7 The Liebenden, 'ye that love'

- l 12 Ste-entgegen, 'she will welcome thee with the whole bliss of heaven'
  - l 17 Schreifenshand, 'dread hand'
- I 30 Deldicu—voizulugen, 'with what deceiful vision do you come to startle the half-awakened mind'.' Some free rendering of the kind seems here necessary on account of the difficulty of translating literally the expression eiten Schiefenstianin voilugen, which denotes approximately 'to delude with a dream of horior'. It is in accordance with history that the sentence of death was announced to Egmont during the night. As regards the other incidents relating to his tragic end, compare the Historical Introduction

P 110, 1 17 Une ubertragenen, 'delegated to us'

1 19 Cifemmen denotes, in legal terminology, 'to pronounce

judgment,' 'to declare'

- I 20 This brief interruption fully characterizes Egmont's imperturbable belief in the safeguard of the Order of the Golden Fleece According to the statutes of this Order, the King could certainly not delegate any power whatever over the Knights, but Alva peremptorily declared 'that he had undertaken the cognizance of this affair by commission of his Majesty as sovereign of the land, not as head of the Golden Fleece'
- l 21 The term vorgangiger, which denotes 'previous,' and is here a pleonastic legal expression, may be omitted in the translation
- 1 22 Egmont's Christian name was Lamoial, but Goethe probably preferred to give him a genuine Teutonic name, which seems, besides, to have been a special favourite of his Thus he changed the name of Faust, which was Johann, likewise into βειπιά.

1 24 Mit-Morgens, 'with the break of the day'

1 26 Mit bem Schwerte vom Leben zum Tobe gebracht werben

is a legal phrase for 'to be beheaded with the sword'

1 28 The reason why Goethe omitted the date is attributed by some to the circumstance, that the mention of the correct date would have been in contradiction to the course in which the events follow each other in the drama, and a wrong date would have too much offended against historical truth We think, however, that Goethe's sole reason was, that the

mention of any date would have imparted to the sentence of death the formal character of a legal document, and would

have considerably weakened the diamatic effect

1 3r The 'Tribunal of Twelve,' oi, as it was also officially called, the 'Council of Troubles,' and popularly the 'Blood Council,' had been established by Alva after the capture of Egmont and Horn 'for the trial of crimes committed during the recent period of troubles' It was one of the most arbitrary and informal tribunals which ever decided on the fate of man

P 111, l 2 Sein Haus bestellen, 'to set one's house in order,' is a biblical phrase for 'to make one's last arrangements before death' Cp Isa xxxviii I

1 5 Nacleln is here used for Nacletriager

1 13 Shut—Luspein, 'at first they will whisper it behind the

back of the ambitious man'

l 20 Gefte, 'might asseit his credit, woith' It is well known that Alva counselled the invasion of the Netherlands solely in order to make himself indispensable to the King Cp Strada, 1 p 286.

1 24 Det Cingebilbete, 'the overweening man' Conceit and arrogance were among the principal features of Alva's

character

I 28 Genibereisten, 'passed rapidly over' Log, here 'scigned' P 112, 1 3 The verb stein signifies here that the two nations 'stood there in anxious expectation of the result' Translate stander by 'looked anxiously on'

1 4 Wunschten, lit 'wished', here 'hoped'

1 5 Supply 'the mark' after traf, and translate Meinigen

by 'my countrymen,' and buildbuild by 'rent'

I 6 The causes of paltry envy of Alva against Egmont as given here, are related by Strada (1 326), who says 'The people, however, being guided in their judgment either by their hatred against Alva or by their love towards Egmont, exculpated the guilty, and laid all the blame on Alva as harbouring envy against Egmont, his old martial rival, and they said, besides, that he was mortified because Egmont ouce won from him, when playing at dice, many thousand dicats, and that later, when at a public rejoicing, they contended for superiority at a shooting-match, Alva was defeated amidst the loud exultation of the Flemings, who considered the victory carried off over a Spanish Duke as a national triumph' (Populus tamen, sive ev odio in Albanum, sive in Egmontium amore, judicium ferens, reum absolvebat, culpamque omnem transferebat in Albanum invidiae retinentem adversus

Egmontium, veterem belli aemulum, offensumque super haec memor abant, quod olim alea ludenti multa aureorum milia victor Egmontius abstulisset, ac postea in publica laetitia, dum uterque explodendo ad signum sclopo ex provocatione contenderent, superatus esset Albanus, ingenti Belgarum plausu ad nationis suae decus referentium victoriam ex Duce Hispano)

1 8 Eischleichend, 'by surreptitious means'

1 14 Reulschlage signifies 'blows with a cudgel' translate here 'heavy blows'

l 23 Butraulich, 'trustful' l 26 Dei Abscheuliche, 'the hateful one'

P 113, 1 3 Lebloses, lit 'lifeless', here 'passive'

1 16 Ju-Lodes, in the grasp (power) of an arbitrary doom'

1 18, &c Translate tout by 'indifferent,' unempfinded by 'callous,' and es wolle by 'happen what may '

1 24 Was ficht buch an, 'what troubles thee?'

1 25 Gin-Mebel, 'more dreadful calamity' Es in 1 27 may be rendered by 'this'

1 28 Du veilieist bich, 'you lose all self-control,' 'you wander'

Lag mich, &c 'let me lament without restraint,' 'let me give vent to my grief'

1 31 Alles in, &c, 'I am entirely prostrate,' 'my whole heart gives way

P 114, 1 11 Horden is here used in the sense of forschen, 'to inquire'

l 13 The pronoun 'me' should be supplied after voi, occurring twice in this line

1 14 Ilnb fort, &c, 'always onward and onward'

1 16 Did bestimint, 'I had destined thee for myself,' viz I fixed on you as my model

1 17 Gift—sein, 'to be entirely with you' The meaning of aft is here 'more than ever'

1 20 Menn—fann, 'if it can be any comfoit to thee'
1 22 Menn—fann, 'my heait was diawn towards thee'

1 27 Ein leeres Schreckbild, 'a vain terior'

P 115, 1 r Ausweichenben, lit 'evasive,' may here be rendered by 'self-deluding'

1 4 The expressions buffe and Rath are here made highly emphatic by means of the indefinite article, which would in ordinary prose not be required

1 6 So gewaltsam bringt, 'be so intent' The term Nebermacht may here be rendered by 'supremacy.'

1 12 Entfernen mid say separate me

1 16 Die say 'his' The definite article is sometimes used in higher diction, instead of the possessive pronoun, before Majestat Cp the verse Was benkt die Majestat von Ihren Tirppen in Schiller's Piccolomini, Act ii Scene 7

1 24 Stiengen, 'tight'

1 25 Ginem ben Weg verrennen is a figurative expression for 'to bar the way'

P 116, 1 6 In-Getümmels, 'in the excitement of the

frav'

' l 15 The poetical expression flosse—Banben, lit 'would not burst (melt away) from its bonds,' may here be rendered by 'but must break'

1 18 Entjagen, here 'be resigned'

l 24 Ferdinand expresses by this pathetic outbuist that he loses in Egmont everything which made life bright to him, and the star which guided him through life. He feels now like one 'who has lost his light at the festive joy of a banquet, and his flag amidst the din of battle'

P 117, 1 3 Winfung is here used as a synonym of Thatigfeit,

'activity

1 5 Cp p 8, 1 17.

1 7 So—Eust, 'so should you, my friend, love life and

enjoy it.'

I 17 Egmont was not only warned by Orange (cp pp 46–53, and the Note to 1 9, p 53), but repeatedly by other friends, more particularly by Robles, Seigneur de Billy, a Portuguese gentleman, who had before Alva's arrival returned from Spain to Brussels, and was well aware of the disposition of the Court towards Egmont On the very night before his capture, Egmont was warned by a Spanish officer of rank, who came secretly into his house and 'urged him solemnly to make his escape before the morrow' Cp Motley's Rise of the Dutch Republic, vol 11 pp 120, 122

1 24 Translate here Inneistes by 'spint,' and gezogen by

'drawn on'

1 26  $\mathfrak{Dod}$ — $\mathfrak{fem}$ , 'yet she (1 e the country) will be cared for '

1 30 Guben, 'to ponder,' 'speculate' Wo may here be rendered by 'when,' and foll by 'can'

P 118, 1 2 Lag—seur, 'let my attendants be commended

to thy best care '

1 5 Egmont's secretary, whose Christian name was Sohann, was executed the day before his master died on the scaffold Cp the Note to p. 80, l. 13, and Strada, 1 p 322.

l 10 Beschaftigt say 'agitates.'

- 1 13 Ruht tief aus, 'rests in deep repose.'
- 1 17 Den, 'such a one'

1 29 Remen Abschied, 'no leave-taking,' 'no more farewells'

P 119, 1 6, &c Mid ungent machen half, 'kept me wakeful by its uncertainty' Mit—Gentifiett, 'by its resistless certainty' As long as Egmont's fate was doubtful he was harassed by cares which kept him wakeful on his couch, but now his fate being decided, all mental anxiety vanished, and he only felt the bodily fatigue, the 'urgent call of nature'

l 10 Ungebeten, 'unsought' Unersieht, 'unimplored'

1 II Du-Gebanten, 'thou unravellest the knots of intense thought'

1 14 thib—wit, 'and wrapped in pleasing delirious visions, we are submerged' Egmont's last speech is a poetical description of the sensation which we feel when sleep gradually overpowers us. The thoughts lose their definite shape, the course (fixed) of our harmonious feelings moves on without any discordant interruption, and a kind of pleasing delirious delusion takes hold of the mind

1 18 Von — umflossen, 'surrounded by a halo'

1 22 The 'bundle of arrows' was the emblem of the 'Gueux,' and the 'staff with the hat' were afterwards the arms of the Netherland Republic The latter emblem is shown to Egmont as a kind of prophetic vision

P 120, I 7 Du-Samues, 'the floating hem of her

garment'

1 12 Unb-weg, 'and drowning it, sweep it from the ground which it asserts'

1. 26. Dornelt rafth translate 'with double vigour'



# APPENDIX I

# GOETHE'S VORZUGLICHSTE SCHRIFTEN NACH IHREM GATTUNGS-CHARAKTER

## A-TEBEN

## I Zur Selbstbiographie

- 1 Annalen, oder Tag- und Jahreshefte 1749 bis Eude 1822
- 2 Briefe aus der Schweiz 1779 3 Schweizerreise (Briefe) 1797
- A Italienische Reise 1786-1788
- 4 Hallenische Keise 1700-1700
- 5 Campagne in Frankreich, &c 1792
- 6 Aus meinem Leben Wahrheit und Dichtung Bis 1775 reichend 1811-1830
- 7 Reise am Rhein, &c 1814–1815

# II Briefwechsel

- 1 Mit Kestner, 1772-1798
- 2 Mit Knebel, 1774-1832
- 3 Mit F H Jacobi, 1774-1817
- 4 Briefe an Lavater, 1774-1783
- 5 An Grafin Stolberg, 1775-1782 und 1822-1823
- 6 An Frau von Stein, 1776-1826
- 7 An H Meyer, 1788-1830
- 8 Mit Schiller, 1794-1805 Mit Zelter, 1796-1832
- Ferner Briefe an Merck, Herder, Wieland, Rochlitz, Grafen Reinhard, &c, und Briefe an Leipziger Freunde, herausgegeben von O, Jahn

#### B-POESIE.

- I Lyrisches und Didaktisches
- 1 Die Höllenfahrt Christi 1775
- 2 Romische Elegien 1788
- 3 Xenien 1796
- 4 Westostlicher Divan 1814-1819
  - 5 Triologie der Leidenschaft 1823-1824

Vom Jahre 1765 bis 1832 sind von Goethe an zwei tausend kleinere, lyrische, didaktische und erzahlende Gedichte erschienen

# II Episches, etc

- I Die Geheimnisse 1785.
- 2 Remeke Fuchs 1793
- 3 Hermann und Dorothea. 1797

# III Dramatisches

- I Die Laune des Verliebten 1767 (1768)
- 2 Die Mitschuldigen 1767 (1768)
- 3 Gotz von Berlichingen 1773
- Gotter, Helden und Wieland 1774
  Stella 1774
- 6 Clavigo 1774
- 7 Faust Erste Scenen 1774. Erster Theil vollendet, 1806. Zweiter Theil, 1831

8 Egmont 1787

- 9 Iphigeme In Prosa, 1779, m Versen, 1786
- 10 Jery und Butely Singspiel 1770

11 Tasso 1789

- 12 Der Gross-Cophta 1789
- 13 Der Burgergeneral 1794
- 14 Die naturliche Tochter 1802
- 15 Pandora 1807
- 16 Des Epemenides Erwachen Ein Festspiel zum Friedensfest, 1814

# Ueber setzungen

Voltaire's Mahomet 1779 Tankred 1800

#### IV Romane

- Leiden des jungen Werther 1773
   Wilhelm Meister's Lehrjahre 1795
   -1796
- 3 Wilhelm Meister's Wanderjahre 1821
- 4 Die Wahlverwandtschaften 1809
- 5 Kind und Lowe Novelle

Ausserdem eine Anzahl kleinerer Erzahlungen, Marchen, &c

# C-WISSENSCHAFT-LICHES

- I Biographie und Geschichte
- I Benvenuto Cellini 170
- 2 Winckelmann und sein Jahrhundert 1805
- 3 Zum Andenken an die Herzogin Amalie von Weimar 1807

- 4 Philipp Hackert Biographische Skizze 1810-1811
- 5 Zum Andenken an Wieland 1813

## II Literatur und Kritik

- I Recensionen ---
  - (a) In den Frankfurter gelehrten Anzeigen, 1772-1773
  - (b) In der Jenaischen Literaturzeitung, 1804-1806
  - (c) In den Berliner Jahrbuchern, &c, 1830-1831
- 2 Anmer kungen zu Rameau's Neffen von Diderot, 1805

Goethe's Autsatze über Literatui und Kunst sind zu zahlreich um hiei im Detail aufgezahlt zu werden

#### III Kunst

- I Ueber deutsche Baukunst 1771
- 2 Ueber Maler et Nach Diderot 1,98
- 3 Aufsutze in den Propylain 1798-1800
- 4 Aufsatze in der Zeitschrift Kunst und Alterthum 1816-1832

#### IV Zur Naturwissenschaft

- I Die Metamorphose der Pflanzen
  1790
  - Beirage zur Optik 1791-1792
- 3 Zun "Traller "TC 1817-1824
- 4 Uebe 1 1 1832

Ausserdem eine Reihe von zihlreichen einzelnen Aufsatzen über wis senschaftliche Fragen

Man vergleiche über die Goethe-Literatur Goedekes 'Grundriss' und die chronologisch-bibliographischen Schriften von Graf, Hirzel, Lanzicolle, &cc

# APPENDIX II

# ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS OF GOETHE'S WORKS

#### A-LIFE

## I Autobiographical

- I Truth and Poetry First 13 Books
  By John Oxenford 1846
- Wol II, and Letters from Switzerland, Italy, &c By A J W Morrison 1846
- 3 Campaign in France By R Flarie 1848

# II Correspondence, &c

- I Goethe's Letters to Leipzig Friends Edited by O Jahn Translated by R Slater 1866
- 2 Correspondence between Schiller and Goethe, from 1794-1805 By Miss Dora Schmitz
- 3 Conversations with Eckermann By S M Fuller 1838
- 4 ——By J Oxenford 1850

# B-POETRY.

#### I Lyrics

- Poems With a sketch of Goethes Life By E A Bowring 1853
- 2 Poems and Ballads By W E
  Aytoun and T Martin With
  Notes 2nd edition 1860
- 3 Minor Poems By E Chawner 1866

## II Epics, &c

- 1 Reynard the Fox
  - By (1) T J Arnold
    - (n) Anon 1853
- 2 Hermann and Dorothea By (1) Holcroft 1801
  - (11) W Whewell 1830
    - (iii) M Winter (in the old English measure of Chap-
    - nuan's Homer) 1850 (iv) C Cochrane 1853
    - (v) T C Porter 1854
    - (v1) H Dile 1859
    - (vii) Anon 1862

## III Drama

- (a) Various
- I Stella Anon 1798
- 2 Gotz von Berlichingen By (1) Walter Scott 1790
  - (11) B D'Aguilar
- 3 Iphigenie
  - By (1) W Taylor, of Norwich 1793
    - 1793 (11) G L Hartwig 1841
    - (111) Miss A Swanwick 1846 (1v) G J Adler 1850
    - (iv) G J Adler 18 (v) Anon 1851
- 4 Egmont. By (1) Anon Boston, 1841
  - (1) Miss Swanwick (Bohn's Library) 1846

By (111) Anon Frankfort, 1848 (iv) A D Coleridge, M A, (Chapman & Hall) 1868 5 Tasso C Des Vœux By (1) 1827 (11) Miss Swanwick. 1846 (m) M A H 1856 (b) Faust Lord L F Gower By (1) 1833 (11) Hayward In Prose 5th edition, 1855 I S Blackie With Notes (111) and Remarks 1834 (1V) D Syme 1834 (v) Hon R Talbot 1835 (v1) J Hills 1840 (vii) Sir G Lefevre 2nd edition. 1843 (viii) C I Brooks 2nd edit 1847. (ix) L Filmore 1853 (x) I Galvan 1860 3 (x1) Beresford 1862 (xii) T Martin and cdit т866 (viii) J W Grant 1867

1867

(xiv) | Anster

PARTS I AND II

By (xv) L J Bernays 1839
(xvi) A Gurncy 1842 \*

#### IV Novels

I Sorrows of Werter

By (1) A Gillord (after th French translat) 1789

(n) W Bender 1801

(111) F Gotzberg 1802 (1V) Dr Pratt 1813

edit 1823 (v) R D Boylan 1854 |

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2 Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship

By (1) T Curlyle 1812

(n) R D Boylan 1846 other Muno ylan 1846

4 Elective Affinitics By R. D. Boylan

\* There have been published, besides, several anonymous translations of Part I of 'Faust'

† There exist, besides, six anonymous English translations of 'Worter'

NB—There exist also translations of several Essays by Goethe on Art. Itis. Theory of Colours' has been translated by C. L. Eastlake, R.A., 1840.

# Clarendon Press Series

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# C. A BUCHHEIM, PHIL Doc, F C P.

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- 'Two years ago Di Buchheim produced an edition of Goethe's "Egmont," in which he exhibited some of the highest qualifications demanded from the editor of a great classical poem. The volume before us has been edited with equal ability and care. It is no small boon to possess an edition which will not only prove useful to the student, but interesting to the scholar'—Pall Mall Gazette, April 5, 1871
- 'This second volume of Geiman Classics is devoted to an edition of Schiller's Wilhelm Tell, on which the editor has evidently bestowed much painstaking labour. The legend on which the poet pioceeded is made the subject of a separate treatise, in which, alas, like so many other stories that have charmed the world, it melts away under the searching fire of historical criticism'—The Scotsman, September 12, 1871
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